

SB 5205 - MORE THAN A "CLEAN-UP" BILL

The current law is RCW 26.09.191 - the family law parenting plan statute that protects survivors and their children.

SOME OF THE PROPOSED SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES

- Merging "Mandatory" and "Discretionary" Limitations

Wraps conduct that *requires* a judge to limit a parent's residential time with conduct that court has a *choice* whether impose limitations into the same section

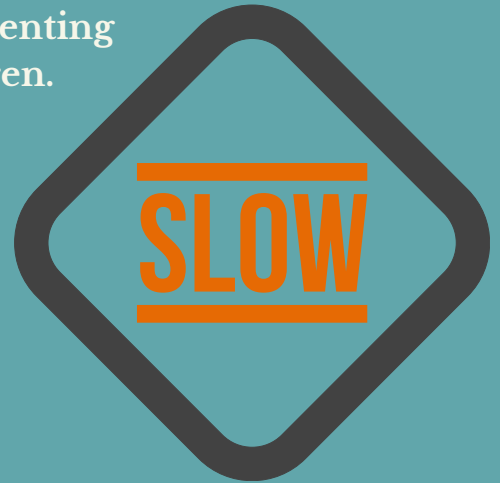
A judge can apply the same restrictions for mental health or "abusive use of conflict" as domestic violence, including professionally supervised visitation and no contact.

- Joint Decision-Making When there is a History of Domestic Violence

A judge could give a parent with a finding of "history of domestic violence" joint decision-making

- Weighing Limitations Against Both Parents

Does not emphasize that conduct like domestic violence should be given more weight than a survivor parent's mental health or physical impairment, for example.



SB 5205 IS BEING MARKETED AS A MERE "CLEAN-UP" OF THE CURRENT LAW TO MAKE IT EASIER TO READ.

While we support making the law *more understandable* for judges and parents, SB 5205 actually contains several substantive changes that could lead to even **worse outcomes** for protective parents and provide more ammunition for abusers to use against survivors in court.

Until SB 5205 can be more carefully analyzed, its unintended consequences thoughtfully explored, and **more meaningful input and participation provided**, we respectfully request that our Legislature join us in **opposition** to SB 5205