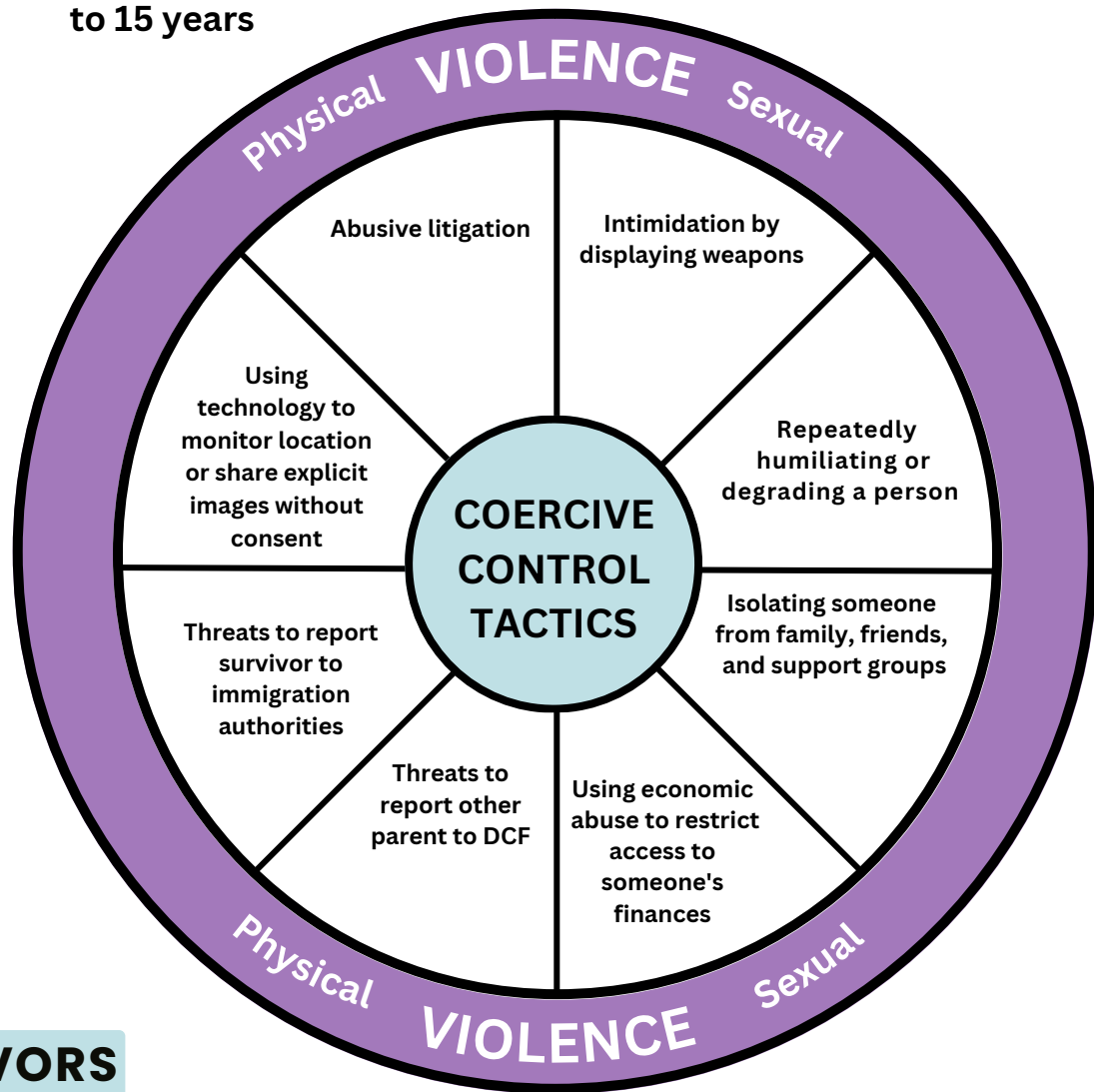


H. 1547/S.1077: AN ACT TO IMPROVE PROTECTIONS RELATIVE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Lead Sponsors: Representatives Natalie Higgins & Tram Nguyen
Senator Michael Moore

WHAT DOES THIS BILL DO?

- Adds coercive control and technological abuse as a basis for 209A abuse prevention (restraining) orders.
- Expands statute of limitations in domestic violence cases to 15 years



WHY IS THIS BILL IMPORTANT?

Currently 209A protection requires physical harm or imminent threat of physical harm.

Adding coercive control and technological abuse to our civil protection law will recognize less visible but no less dangerous forms of abuse and give survivors a chance to seek protection before the harm escalates.

IMPACT ON SURVIVORS

97% of domestic violence victims report “experiencing harassment, monitoring, and threats by abusers through the misuse of technology.” (The Safety Net Project)

It's estimated that 60-80% of survivors of physical or sexual violence have experienced coercive controlling abuse

LIST OF SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

AS OF 4/24/23

- Jane Doe Inc. The Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence
- Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI)
- Salasin Project, a program of Western MA Training Consortium
- New Hope Inc.
- Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK)
- Shaquera's Story Domestic Violence Consulting and Coaching
- Alianza DV Services, Inc.
- Mimi Movement Inc.
- Mass Family Advocacy Coalition
- Independence House, Inc.
- Stuck617, Solutions To Uplift Communities & Kids, LLC
- Healing Trauma Through Spirit with Laura Bonetzky Joseph
- Jane Does Well
- DOVE, Inc.
- Jewish Family and Children's Service, Inc.
- Casa Myrna Vazquez, Inc.
- League of Women Voters