CIRCULAR



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Title
Human Rights Sanctuary Amendment
Act of 2022
Number
CIR-23-03
Effective Date
March 9, 2023
Expiration Date
March 10, 2025

The Human Rights Sanctuary Amendment Act of 2022 is now in effect. The Act protects the rights of people who come to the District of Columbia (DC) seeking an abortion, contraception, or gender-affirming care, or who engage in the protected conduct outlined below. The Act prevents District of Columbia employees from cooperating with interstate investigations that seek to impose civil or criminal liability for these activities. The Act does not change what constitutes criminal conduct under the DC Code.

Need to Know

Sworn and civilian members acting in their official capacities shall not provide any information or expend or use time, money, facilities, property, equipment, personnel, or other resources in furtherance of any interstate investigation or proceeding seeking to impose civil or criminal liability upon any person for attempting or engaging in the following conduct, except to the extent that such conduct would be prohibited under District law:

- Receiving or seeking an abortion or contraception;
- Performing or inducing an abortion with the voluntary consent of the pregnant person;
- Engaging in sexual conduct;
- Providing contraception or using contraception;
- Entering into or remaining in a living arrangement, marriage, domestic partnership, or civil union; or
- Providing, consenting to, receiving, or facilitating gender-affirming care.

Members shall continue to investigate other activity not directly enumerated in this Act. Members may be held civilly liable for damages and such other remedies as may be appropriate by a person claiming to be aggrieved (DC Code § 2-1403.16).

References For definitions of key terms, please refer to DC Official Code § 2-1401.02

While this circular will expire on March 10, 2025, changes made to the DC Code as described in this circular will be permanent until such time as they are amended.

> Robert J. Contee III Chief of Police

RJC:KDO:MOC:KWC:BK