

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Bill seeks to amend the Domestic Violence Act, Chapter 84 (the “principal Act”) to revise the definition of the term “cohabitant”; to expand the scope of domestic violence to include forms of abuse inflicted through electronic or digital means, namely cyberbullying, cyberstalking and online harassment; and to expand the definition of emotional, verbal and psychological abuse to expressly include unwelcome or intimidating contact and the dissemination of intimate images.

This Bill contains **two (2) clauses**.

Clause 1 provides for the short title of the Act.

Clause 2 provides for an amendment to section 2 of the principal Act to amend the existing definitions of the terms “cohabitant”, “domestic violence” and “emotional, verbal and psychological abuse” and to insert new definitions of the terms “cyberbullying”, “cyberstalking”, “online harassment” and “private or sensitive information”.

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Sen. the Hon. Claudette Joseph
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

1. Short title
2. Amendment to section 2 of the principal Act

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

GRENADA

ACT NO. OF 2026

AN ACT to amend the Domestic Violence Act, Chapter 84.

BE IT ENACTED by the King’s Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Representatives and by the authority of the same as follows—

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2026,

and shall be read as one with the Domestic Violence Act, Chapter 84 of the 2010 Continuous Revised Edition of the Laws of Grenada, hereinafter referred to as the “**principal Act**”.

Amendment to section 2 of the principal Act

2. Section 2 of the principal Act is amended as follows—

(a) by repealing the definition of “cohabitant” and substituting therefor the following new definition—

““**cohabitant**” means—

(a) in relation to a woman, a single man who is living or has lived together with a single woman as husband and wife on a *bona fide* domestic basis continuously for a period of not less than five years; or

(b) in relation to a man, a single woman who is living or has lived together with a single man as husband and wife on a *bona fide* domestic basis continuously for a period of not less than five years;”;

(b) by repealing the definition of “domestic violence” and substituting therefor the following new definition—

“**domestic violence**” means any controlling or abusive behaviour that harms the health, safety or well-being of a person or any child, and includes the following—

- (a) physical abuse or threats of physical abuse;
 - (b) sexual abuse or threats of sexual abuse;
 - (c) emotional, verbal or psychological abuse;
 - (d) economic abuse;
 - (e) intimidation;
 - (f) harassment, including online harassment;
 - (g) stalking, including cyberstalking;
 - (h) cyberbullying;
 - (i) damage to or destruction of property; or
 - (j) entry into the applicant’s residence without consent, where the parties do not share the same residence;”;
- (c) in the definition of “emotional, verbal and psychological abuse”—
- (i) in paragraph (b), by deleting the word “or” where it appears; and
 - (ii) by inserting after paragraph (c) the following new paragraphs—
 - “(d) the repeated making of unwelcome or intimidatory contact with the applicant by any means, including in person, verbally or by gesture, letter, telephone and electronic or digital means; or
 - (e) the dissemination of intimate images of the applicant or the applicant’s child by any means, including electronic or digital

means, whether or not such images have been digitally manipulated or altered;”;

- (d) in the definition of “harassment”, by deleting the word “mail” where it appears, and substituting therefor the word “communications”; and
- (e) by inserting in the appropriate alphabetical order, the following new definitions—

“**cyberbullying**” means the repeated or continuous use of electronic or digital means to publish, transmit or distribute any content or message with the intent to demean, humiliate, intimidate, threaten or emotionally abuse the applicant;

“**cyberstalking**” means the repeated or continuous use of electronic or digital means to engage in a pattern of conduct that harasses, intimidates, threatens or causes fear or emotional distress to the applicant, where such conduct is intended to control, coerce or cause harm to the applicant or would reasonably be perceived as such by the applicant;

“**online harassment**” means engaging in a pattern of conduct, through electronic or digital means, that induces the fear of harm or causes emotional distress or humiliation to the applicant, including—

- (a) repeatedly or continuously sending abusive, threatening or humiliating messages to the applicant;
- (b) impersonating the applicant or creating false digital content intended to harm the applicant’s reputation;
- (c) monitoring or tracking the applicant’s digital activity without his or her consent; or
- (d) publishing or threatening to publish private or sensitive information about the applicant;

“**private or sensitive information**” means any information, whether recorded or unrecorded, oral, written, visual, electronic or otherwise that—

