



CHAPTER 50A
ARTICLE 2 - UNIFORM CHILD-CUSTODY JURISDICTION AND ENFORCEMENT ACT

N.C.G.S. § 50A-208.

Jurisdiction declined by reason of conduct.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 1999-223, s. 3 — second act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 02:30 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 9900df908a57c4bd50ba0bb0 - 4d600bb561e9b3f068d89add - 27527ae652aa7fa7
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- § 50A-208(a)

Except as otherwise provided in G.S. 50A-204 or by other law of this State, if a court of this State has jurisdiction under this Article because a person seeking to invoke its jurisdiction has engaged in unjustifiable conduct, the court shall decline to exercise its jurisdiction unless:

(1) The parents and all persons acting as parents have acquiesced in the exercise of jurisdiction;

(2) A court of the state otherwise having jurisdiction under G.S. 50A-201 through G.S. 50A-203 determines that this State is a more appropriate forum under G.S. 50A-207; or

(3) No court of any other state would have jurisdiction under the criteria specified in G.S. 50A-201 through G.S. 50A-203.
- § 50A-208(b)

If a court of this State declines to exercise its jurisdiction pursuant to subsection (a), it may fashion an appropriate remedy to ensure the safety of the child and prevent a repetition of the unjustifiable conduct, including staying the proceeding until a child-custody proceeding is commenced in a court having jurisdiction under G.S. 50A-201 through G.S. 50A-203.
- § 50A-208(c)

If a court dismisses a petition or stays a proceeding because it declines to exercise its jurisdiction pursuant to subsection (a), it shall assess against the party seeking to invoke its jurisdiction necessary and reasonable expenses including costs, communication expenses, attorneys' fees, investigative fees, expenses for witnesses, travel expenses, and child care during the course of the proceedings, unless the

party from whom fees are sought establishes that the assessment would be clearly inappropriate. The court may not assess fees, costs, or expenses against this State unless authorized by law other than this Article.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
2 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

1979		1989		1999
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR		DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT		
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER	
01	1979	c. 110, s. 1	ENACTED	
02	1999	S.L. 1999-223, s. 3	AMENDED	

APPARATUS II
4 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 50A-204	(a)	"Except as otherwise provided in"
G.S. 50A-201	(a)(2)	"the state otherwise having jurisdiction under"
G.S. 50A-203	(a)(2)	"having jurisdiction under G.S. 50A-201 through"
G.S. 50A-207	(a)(2)	"is a more appropriate forum under"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 50A-208 (1999).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 50A-208(a) (1999).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE
(1979, c. 110, s. 1; 1999-223, s. 3.)

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NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

