
HOUSE BILL No. 1286

AM128603 has been incorporated into introduced printing.

Synopsis: Military protective order.

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2026

IN 1286—LS 6878/DI 149



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Introduced

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1286

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning
civil procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 34-26-5-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. At a hearing to
3 obtain an order for protection, each party has a continuing duty to
4 inform the court of:
5 (1) each separate proceeding for an order for protection;
6 (2) any civil litigation;
7 (3) each proceeding in a family, domestic relations, or juvenile
8 court; ~~and~~
9 (4) each criminal case; **and**
10 **(5) any military protective order issued by a military**
11 **commander in effect under 10 U.S.C. 1567;**
12 involving a party or a child of a party. The information provided under
13 this section must include the case name, the case number, and the
14 county and state in which the proceeding is held, if that information is
15 known by the party.

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SECTION 2. IC 34-26-5-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,
SECTION 527, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) If it appears from a petition
for an order for protection or from a petition to modify an order for
protection that domestic or family violence has occurred or that a
modification of an order for protection is required, a court may:

- (1) without notice or hearing, immediately issue an order for
protection ex parte or modify an order for protection ex parte; or
- (2) upon notice and after a hearing, whether or not a respondent
appears, issue or modify an order for protection.

**If the petitioner presents evidence that a military protective order
is in effect for the protection of the petitioner against the
respondent, the court must consider this evidence and may issue an
order for protection ex parte or modify an order for protection ex
parte under subdivision (1) based upon this evidence.**

(b) If it appears from a petition for an order for protection or from
a petition to modify an order for protection that harassment has
occurred, a court:

- (1) may not, without notice and a hearing, issue an order for
protection ex parte or modify an order for protection ex parte;
but
- (2) may, upon notice and after a hearing, whether or not a
respondent appears, issue or modify an order for protection.

A court must hold a hearing under this subsection not later than thirty
(30) days after the petition for an order for protection or the petition to
modify an order for protection is filed.

(c) A court may grant the following relief without notice and
hearing in an ex parte order for protection or in an ex parte order for
protection modification under subsection (a):

- (1) Enjoin a respondent from threatening to commit or
committing acts of domestic or family violence against a
petitioner and each designated family or household member.
- (2) Prohibit a respondent from harassing, annoying, telephoning,
contacting, or directly or indirectly communicating with a
petitioner.
- (3) Prohibit a respondent from using a tracking device (as
defined by IC 35-31.5-2-337.6) to determine the location of:
 - (A) the petitioner or property owned or used by the
petitioner; and
 - (B) any other family or household member or property
owned or used by the family or household member.
- (4) Remove and exclude a respondent from the residence of a



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petitioner, regardless of ownership of the residence.

(5) Order a respondent to stay away from the residence, school, or place of employment of a petitioner or a specified place frequented by a petitioner and each designated family or household member.

(6) Order that a petitioner has the exclusive possession, care, custody, or control of any animal owned, possessed, kept, or cared for by the petitioner, respondent, minor child of either the petitioner or respondent, or any other family or household member.

(7) Prohibit a respondent from removing, transferring, injuring, concealing, harming, attacking, mistreating, threatening to harm, or otherwise disposing of an animal described in subdivision (6).

(8) Order possession and use of the residence, an automobile, and other essential personal effects, regardless of the ownership of the residence, automobile, and essential personal effects. If possession is ordered under this subdivision or subdivision (6), the court may direct a law enforcement officer to accompany a petitioner to the residence of the parties to:

(A) ensure that a petitioner is safely restored to possession of the residence, automobile, animal, and other essential personal effects; or

(B) supervise a petitioner's or respondent's removal of personal belongings and animal.

(9) Order other relief necessary to provide for the safety and welfare of a petitioner and each designated family or household member.

(d) A court may grant the following relief after notice and a hearing, whether or not a respondent appears, in an order for protection or in a modification of an order for protection:

(1) Grant the relief under subsection (c).

(2) Specify arrangements for parenting time of a minor child by a respondent and:

(A) require supervision by a third party; or

(B) deny parenting time;

if necessary to protect the safety of a petitioner or child.

(3) Order a respondent to:

(A) pay attorney's fees;

(B) pay rent or make payment on a mortgage on a petitioner's residence;

(C) if the respondent is found to have a duty of support, pay

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for the support of a petitioner and each minor child;
 (D) reimburse a petitioner or other person for expenses
 related to the domestic or family violence or harassment,
 including:

- (i) medical expenses;
- (ii) counseling;
- (iii) shelter; and
- (iv) repair or replacement of damaged property;

(E) pay the costs and expenses incurred in connection with
 the use of a GPS tracking device under subsection (k); or

(F) pay the costs and fees incurred by a petitioner in
 bringing the action.

(4) Prohibit a respondent from using or possessing a firearm,
 ammunition, or a deadly weapon specified by the court, and
 direct the respondent to surrender to a specified law enforcement
 agency the firearm, ammunition, or deadly weapon for the
 duration of the order for protection unless another date is ordered
 by the court.

(5) Permit the respondent and petitioner to occupy the same
 location for any purpose that the court determines is legitimate
 or necessary. The court may impose terms and conditions upon
 a respondent when granting permission under this subdivision.

An order issued under subdivision (4) does not apply to a person who
 is exempt under 18 U.S.C. 925.

(e) The court shall:

- (1) cause the order for protection to be delivered to the county
 sheriff for service;
- (2) make reasonable efforts to ensure that the order for
 protection is understood by a petitioner and a respondent if
 present;

(3) electronically notify each law enforcement agency:

(A) required to receive notification under IC 5-2-9-6; or

(B) designated by the petitioner;

(4) transmit a copy of the order to the clerk for processing under
 IC 5-2-9;

(5) indicate in the order if the order and the parties meet the
 criteria under 18 U.S.C. 922(g)(8); and

(6) require the clerk of court to enter or provide a copy of the
 order to the Indiana protective order registry established by
 IC 5-2-9-5.5.

(f) Except as provided in subsection (g), an order for protection



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1 issued ex parte or upon notice and a hearing, or a modification of an
 2 order for protection issued ex parte or upon notice and a hearing, is
 3 effective for two (2) years after the date of issuance unless another date
 4 is ordered by the court. The sheriff of each county shall provide
 5 expedited service for an order for protection.

6 (g) This subsection applies to an order for protection issued ex
 7 parte or upon notice and a hearing, or to a modification of an order for
 8 protection issued ex parte or upon notice and a hearing, if:

9 (1) the respondent named in the order is a sex or violent offender
 10 (as defined in IC 11-8-8-5) and is required to register as a
 11 lifetime sex or violent offender under IC 11-8-8-19; and

12 (2) the petitioner was the victim of the crime that resulted in the
 13 requirement that the respondent register as a lifetime sex or
 14 violent offender under IC 11-8-8-19.

15 An order for protection to which this subsection applies is effective
 16 indefinitely after the date of issuance unless another date is ordered by
 17 the court. The sheriff of each county shall provide expedited service for
 18 an order for protection.

19 (h) A finding that domestic or family violence or harassment has
 20 occurred sufficient to justify the issuance of an order under this section
 21 means that a respondent represents a credible threat to the safety of a
 22 petitioner or a member of a petitioner's household. Upon a showing of
 23 domestic or family violence or harassment by a preponderance of the
 24 evidence, the court shall grant relief necessary to bring about a
 25 cessation of the violence or the threat of violence. The relief may
 26 include an order directing a respondent to surrender to a law
 27 enforcement officer or agency all firearms, ammunition, and deadly
 28 weapons:

29 (1) in the control, ownership, or possession of a respondent; or

30 (2) in the control or possession of another person on behalf of a
 31 respondent;

32 for the duration of the order for protection unless another date is
 33 ordered by the court.

34 (i) An order for custody, parenting time, or possession or control
 35 of property issued under this chapter is superseded by an order issued
 36 from a court exercising dissolution, legal separation, paternity, or
 37 guardianship jurisdiction over the parties.

38 (j) The fact that an order for protection is issued under this chapter
 39 does not raise an inference or presumption in a subsequent case or
 40 hearings between the parties.

41 (k) Upon a finding of a violation of an order for protection, the

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1 court may:

- 2 (1) require a respondent to wear a GPS tracking device; and
 3 (2) prohibit the respondent from approaching or entering certain
 4 locations where the petitioner may be found.

5 If the court requires a respondent to wear a GPS tracking device under
 6 subdivision (1), the court shall, if available, require the respondent to
 7 wear a GPS tracking device with victim notification capabilities.

8 (l) The court may permit a victim, a petitioner, another person, an
 9 organization, or an agency to pay the costs and expenses incurred in
 10 connection with the use of a GPS tracking device under subsection (k).

11 SECTION 3. IC 34-26-5-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.161-2018,
 12 SECTION 110, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 13 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. (a) A foreign protection order
 14 is facially valid if it:

- 15 (1) identifies the protected person and the respondent;
 16 (2) is currently in effect;
 17 (3) was issued by a state, **Canada**, or a tribal court with
 18 jurisdiction over the:

19 (A) parties; and

20 (B) subject matter;

21 under the law of the issuing state, **Canada**, or the Indian tribe;
 22 and

23 (4) was issued after a respondent was given reasonable notice
 24 and an opportunity to be heard sufficient to protect the
 25 respondent's right to due process. In the case of an ex parte
 26 order, notice and opportunity to be heard must be provided
 27 within the time required by state, **Canadian**, or tribal law and
 28 within a reasonable time after the order is issued sufficient to
 29 protect the respondent's due process rights.

30 (b) A facially valid foreign protection order is prima facie
 31 evidence of its validity. The protection order may be inscribed on a
 32 tangible medium or stored in an electronic or other medium if it is
 33 retrievable in perceivable form. Presentation of a certified copy of an
 34 order for protection is not required for enforcement.

35 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), a protection order that is
 36 facially valid and issued by a court of a state (issuing state), **Canada**,
 37 or an Indian tribe shall be accorded full faith and credit by Indiana
 38 courts.

39 (d) A mutual foreign protection order is not entitled to full faith
 40 and credit if the order is issued by a state, **Canadian**, or tribal court
 41 against a person who has petitioned, filed a complaint, or otherwise



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1 filed a written pleading for protection against a family or household
2 member, unless:

- 3 (1) a separate petition or motion was filed by a respondent;
- 4 (2) the issuing court has reviewed each motion separately and
- 5 granted or denied each on its individual merits; and
- 6 (3) separate orders were issued and the issuing court made
- 7 specific findings that each party was entitled to an order.

8 (e) Registration or filing of a foreign protection order is not a
9 prerequisite to enforcement of the order in Indiana, and a protection
10 order that is consistent with this section shall be accorded full faith and
11 credit notwithstanding a failure to register or file the order in Indiana.
12 However, if a petitioner wishes to register a foreign protection order in
13 Indiana, all Indiana courts of record shall accommodate the request.
14 The office of judicial administration shall develop a form to be used by
15 courts, clerks, and law enforcement agencies when a petitioner makes
16 a request to register a foreign protection order. Except for a protective
17 order issued to the Indiana protective order registry established by
18 IC 5-2-9-5.5, the courts, clerks of the courts, and sheriffs or law
19 enforcement agencies maintaining depositories shall employ the same
20 procedures required under IC 5-2-9-6 for entering, modifying,
21 extending, or terminating a foreign protection order as those used for
22 a protection order and a no contact order originating in Indiana.

23 (f) A facially valid foreign protection order shall be enforced by a
24 law enforcement officer and a state court as if it were an order
25 originating in Indiana. The order must be enforced if the foreign
26 protection order contains relief that the state courts lack the power to
27 provide in an order for protection issued in Indiana.

28 (g) An Indiana law enforcement officer:

- 29 (1) may not require notification, registration, or filing of a
- 30 facially valid foreign order for protection as a prerequisite to
- 31 enforcement of an order;
- 32 (2) if a foreign protection order is not presented, may consider
- 33 other information to determine under a totality of the
- 34 circumstances whether there is probable cause to believe that a
- 35 valid foreign order for protection exists; and
- 36 (3) who determines that an otherwise valid foreign protection
- 37 order cannot be enforced because a respondent has not been
- 38 notified or served with the order, shall:
 - 39 (A) inform the respondent of the order;
 - 40 (B) serve the order on the respondent;
 - 41 (C) ensure that the order and service of the order are entered

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- 1 into the state depository;
2 (D) allow the respondent a reasonable opportunity to
3 comply with the order before enforcing the order; and
4 (E) ensure the safety of the protected person while giving
5 the respondent the opportunity to comply with the order.
6 (h) After a foreign protective order is registered, the clerk shall
7 enter the order in the Indiana protective order registry established by
8 IC 5-2-9-5.5.

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