

Date of Hearing: April 14, 2021

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Lorena Gonzalez, Chair

AB 547 (McCarty) – As Amended March 17, 2021

Policy Committee: Public Safety

Vote: 8 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: Yes

Reimbursable: Yes

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires a county probation department to notify, upon request, a victim of domestic violence, abuse or stalking of the perpetrator's current or proposed address when the perpetrator is being placed on or released on probation. This bill also requires a district attorney to inform a victim of domestic violence, abuse or stalking of their right to request notification of the perpetrator's address.

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

Possibly reimbursable costs (General Fund (GF)/Local Funds) in the hundreds of thousands of dollars annually across all counties in additional staff and infrastructure for county probation departments to notify victims of domestic violence, stalking or abuse of a perpetrator's address when the perpetrator is placed on probation. Actual costs will depend on the number of victims that request information. GF costs will depend on whether the duties imposed by this bill constitute a reimbursable state mandate, as determined by the Commission on State Mandates.

**COMMENTS:**

1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

California must do more to protect victims of domestic violence. This bill will ensure that victims have the right to be notified of the probation address of their abuser and if necessary take further action to protect themselves from further abuse.

2) **Background.** Existing law requires the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to notify a victim, upon request, when the perpetrator is scheduled for release from prison, if the perpetrator was convicted of a violent felony. Additionally, county probation is also authorized to notify a victim of the victim's right to request notice of the perpetrator's release from prison. However, county probation departments are not currently required to notify victims when perpetrators are placed on probation or their address after release from custody. However, in most domestic violence cases, defendants placed on probation are ordered to stay away from victims and any contact may result in a violation of probation and a return to custody.

**3) Arguments in Support.** According to Work Equity:

AB 547 would help protect victims of domestic violence and prevent further abuse by expanding notification rights for victims of domestic violence to include notification of their perpetrators proposed address when released on probation.

**Analysis Prepared by:** Kimberly Horiuchi / APPR. / (916) 319-2081