
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1753 (Stefani) - Protective orders: firearms and ammunition: notice and procedures

Version: July 2, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 3, 2026

Policy Vote: PUB. S. 5 - 0, JUD. 12 - 0

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: AB 1753 would increase firearm and ammunition relinquishment procedures under protective order statutes. The bill would make changes to civil protective orders relating to service, remote appearances and recognition of protective orders issued in other jurisdictions.

Fiscal Impact: Potentially moderate workload increases to the Department of Justice (DOJ) to receive and process expanded protective order data transmissions, including criminal court protective orders, out-of-state extreme risk protection orders, and additional Judicial Council-form protective orders; and develop guidance and technical assistance (special funds, General Fund).

Up to \$80,000 annually for Judicial Council workload for additional hearing time and clerk workload to run firearm checks. Most courts do not charge for remote hearings therefore the prohibition on these cases charging for remote appearances would result in a minor revenue loss. (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund).

Potentially significant costs to local law enforcement agencies to designate responsible personnel to access and receive firearm relinquishment violation notifications, coordinate follow-up actions and information sharing, and seek reimbursement for service of protective orders. Law enforcement would be authorized to submit a billing to the superior court for payment of service fees, offset some local costs. Costs will depend on whether the duties imposed by this bill constitute a reimbursable state mandate, as determined by the Commission on State Mandates (General Fund).

Potentially significant costs to local law enforcement agencies to maintain custody of seized ammunition. Costs for each instance will likely be low, but costs could be significant in the aggregate statewide, with actual costs depending on the volume of ammunition that must be seized and maintained. Costs will depend on whether the duties imposed by this bill constitute a reimbursable state mandate, as determined by the Commission on State Mandates (General Fund).

Background: State law provides for civil restraining and protective orders to protect against domestic violence, elder abuse, workplace violence, and violence at postsecondary educational institutions; state law also provides for criminal protective orders, including gun violence restraining orders. Under most civil or criminal protective order regimes, the subject of the order is prohibited from owning or possessing firearms or ammunition and must relinquish any firearms or ammunition in their possession.

Proposed Law: This bill proposes numerous changes to various restraining order provisions to increase the efficacy of such orders, particularly as they relate to gun violence.

Related Legislation: AB 2179 (Patel) requires a court, beginning July 1, 2027, to permit electronic filings and remote appearances in proceedings for a workplace violence restraining order, and requires the Judicial Council to develop the necessary forms and rules to implement those requirements on or before January 1, 2028. AB 2179 is on Senate Third Reading.

AB 1961 (Ahrens) authorizes an employer to seek a workplace violence restraining order for an entire workplace, without naming a specific employee, if harassment, unlawful violence, or a credible threat of violence is directed at an entire workplace or location. AB 1961 is on today's agenda.

AB 1657 (Rogers) clarifies that a court cannot refuse to grant an application for a temporary restraining order under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act on the basis that the petitioner did not provide notice to the respondent in advance. AB 1657 is on Senate Third Reading.

SB 899 (Skinner) Chapter 544/2024 extended firearm and ammunition relinquishment procedures that existed for purposes of domestic violence restraining orders to other specified protective orders, thereby standardizing the procedures across civil restraining order types.