

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING

AB 1889 (Ramos)

As Amended March 9, 2026

Majority vote

SUMMARY

Authorizes a court to issue a protective order preventing a defendant from contacting a victim if convicted of witness intimidation involving domestic violence, human trafficking, specified acts of sexual assault, or any case of inflicting injury on an intimate partner, as specified, for up to two years after a person is released from state prison or county jail if released from custody after a protective order issued at sentencing has expired.

Major Provisions**COMMENTS****According to the Author**

"This bill aims to ensure survivors are protected from being re-victimized in situations where a protective order may be expired or about to expire. We would add at minimum a two year grace period from when an offender is released so that they cannot gain contact with those whom they have victimized. We want to ensure that all survivors can feel protected even when the individuals who harmed them are released from prison. Survivors should be afforded peace of mind and not have to live in fear."

Arguments in Support

According to the *Riverside County District Attorney's Office*, "Criminal protective orders serve as a vital safeguard for victims facing threats, intimidation, and violence. Unfortunately, criminal protective orders often expire prior to the release of a defendant from prison, placing victims (the protected party) in a vulnerable and likely dangerous situation. According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, "most female victims of intimate partner violence were previously victimized by the same offender at rates of 77% for women ages 18 to 24, 76% for ages 25 to 34, and 81% for ages 35 to 49."

"AB 1889 seeks to remedy this alarming reality by authorizing courts to issue post-conviction criminal protective orders for domestic violence and sex offenses to be valid for up to 10 years, or two years after the perpetrator's release from prison, whichever is later. This critical change would provide victims with valuable time to pursue additional protective orders or assess additional options for continued safety. Strengthening criminal protective orders through this legislation will provide law enforcement, courts, and victims with the necessary tools to prevent further harm and enhance public safety."

Arguments in Opposition

None submitted.

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, "This bill would result in unknown, potentially significant General Fund cost pressures to the courts, the Department of Justice (DOJ), and potentially local law enforcement agencies. While courts can currently issue protective orders for a fixed duration at the time of sentencing, this bill ties the duration of the order, in part, to the defendant's release date from custody. Because release dates from state prison are subject to change based on credit-earning and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) determinations, courts do not have reliable information at the time of sentencing to calculate the precise end date of the protective order.

"As a result, implementation of this bill would likely require a new administrative process to track release dates and communicate that information to the courts. This could necessitate coordination among CDCR, DOJ (including impacts to the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS)), and local law enforcement to ensure protective order records are updated accurately. Additionally, courts may need to calendar additional hearings to reissue or modify protective orders upon a defendant's release and ensure proper notice to the defendant, resulting in increased workload and court calendar impacts.

"The Legislative Analyst's Office recently warned of General Fund structural deficits of around \$35 billion per year in the 2027-28 fiscal year and ongoing."

VOTES**ASM PUBLIC SAFETY: 9-0-0**

YES: Schultz, Alanis, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Lackey, Nguyen, Ramos, Sharp-Collins

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 15-0-0

YES: Wicks, Hoover, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

UPDATED

VERSION: March 9, 2026

CONSULTANT: Kimberly Horiuchi / PUB. S. / (916) 319-3744

FN: 0002819