
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1889 (Ramos) - Protective orders

Version: June 25, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 3, 2026

Policy Vote: PUB. S. 6 - 0

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: AB 1889 would authorize a court to issue post-conviction criminal protective order for domestic violence and sex offenses to be valid for up to ten years, or two years after the defendant's release from prison, whichever is later. A court would be authorized to issue a post-conviction order for battery offenses to be valid for up to 15 years after the defendant's release from prison, whichever is later.

Fiscal Impact: The trial court costs of this bill are unclear but likely very significant. Because a qualifying defendant's prison release date is unknown at the time of sentencing, a court cannot issue a post-release TPO at sentencing. Instead, a court must hold an additional hearing close to a qualifying defendant's release from prison to issue the post-release TPO with appropriate effective dates.

Further, as it is not clear how readily the courts will learn each defendant's prison release date, additional court workload will be required to coordinate with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), which anticipates a significant prison population to be affected, and sheriffs, thereby increasing the impact on court calendars.

A violation of a protective order is punishable as a misdemeanor. The courts may experience additional cost pressures due to increased workload for adjudicating misdemeanor charges for violations of the temporary protective orders required by this bill. An eight-hour court day costs approximately \$10,500 based on the hourly rate of court personnel including at minimum the judge, clerk, bailiff, court reporter, jury administrator, administrative staff, and jury per-diems. While the courts are not funded on a workload basis, an increase in workload could result in delayed court services and would put pressure on the General Fund to fund additional staff and resources. The FY 2026-27 Budget appropriated \$70 million General Fund for this purpose. (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund)

Moderate cost pressure on the counties to incarcerate if a one year misdemeanor sentence is imposed. The average annual cost to incarcerate one person in county jail is approximately \$80,000. In 2021 Los Angeles County budgeted \$1.3 billion for jail costs with \$90,000 per incarcerated person. Generally, county incarceration costs are not reimbursable state mandates pursuant to Proposition 30 (2012). Likely minor costs to sheriffs to coordinate release date information with the courts.

Proposed Law: 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 (unknown costs to the California

Restraining and Protective Order System which houses restraining orders), and local law enforcement to ensure protective order records are updated accurately.

DOJ does not enter or hold restraining orders directly. Instead, courts either directly enter them or partner with a law enforcement agency to input and hold them on their behalf. The detention agency, CDCR or sheriffs, can inform the courts that the defendant has been released, and the courts can then transmit the modification of the protective order to add an expiration date one year after the date of release, if that is what the courts determined. 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.

Related Legislation: AB 285 (Ramos) 2025 applied to a defendant who was previously subject to a criminal protective order, is convicted of domestic violence or a specified sex offense, and is sentenced to a state prison term (a "qualifying defendant"). At the time of a qualifying defendant's sentencing, the court would be required to issue a temporary protective order (TPO) that must be served on the defendant when they are released from prison. Such a TPO must protect any victims named in the original protective order against the defendant, and may last up to 180 days. AB 285 was held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.