

Date of Hearing: August 5, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

SB 99 (Blakespear) – As Amended June 4, 2026

Policy Committee:	Judiciary	Vote:	12 - 0
	Public Safety		9 - 0

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: Yes Reimbursable: Yes

SUMMARY:

This bill authorizes a court, in deciding whether to issue a domestic violence protective order, to consider evidence submitted by either party that a military protective order (MPO) has been issued against the respondent for the same or similar conduct, and adds law enforcement coordination steps tied to MPOs.

Specifically, this bill requires a law enforcement officer responding to a domestic violence incident to inquire of the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) to verify the existence of an MPO; requires an officer who determines that an NCIC-registered MPO has been issued against a person who violates a protective order to notify the agency that entered the MPO; and authorizes a law enforcement agency to adopt a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with military law enforcement to coordinate investigations involving service members.

FISCAL EFFECT:

- 1) Costs of an unknown amount, likely minor on a per-incident basis but potentially moderate in the aggregate, to state and local law enforcement agencies to perform the additional NCIC inquiry at the scene of a domestic violence incident and to notify the entering agency of a potential MPO violation (General Fund, special funds, local funds). The per-incident workload is incremental — a responding officer already queries the California Restraining and Protective Order System — so the aggregate depends on the number of applicable domestic violence incidents. Costs to local agencies are potentially reimbursable based on a determination by the Commission on State Mandates.
- 2) Cost pressures of an unknown amount, likely minor and absorbable, to the trial courts to consider evidence of an MPO submitted by a party when determining whether to issue a protective order (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund).

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose.** According to the author,

SB 99 ensures that domestic violence survivors are not left unprotected simply because their abuse crosses jurisdictional lines. By strengthening coordination and enforcement, this bill closes critical gaps and helps ensure meaningful, continuous protection for military families.

- 2) **Background.** An MPO is an order a commanding officer issues directing a service member to avoid contact with a protected person. An MPO is not enforceable by civilian law enforcement off a military installation, though federal law requires the issuing commander to notify civilian authorities of the order within seven days. The Domestic Violence Prevention Act authorizes California courts to issue and enforce domestic violence protective orders. No statute prohibits a court from considering a previously issued MPO, but the author and sponsors contend that some courts hesitate to do so given the different process by which an MPO issues. This bill clarifies that a court may consider MPO evidence a party submits, and adds law enforcement steps to verify and report potential MPO violations.
- 3) **Support and Opposition.** ACLU California Action opposes the bill unless amended to remove the provision allowing courts to consider MPO evidence, arguing that an MPO is issued by a commanding officer without notice to the subject or an opportunity to be heard, and that California should not import an order issued with limited due process into state judicial proceedings. Proponents respond that the provision is discretionary and merely confirms an authority courts arguably already hold, leaving the weight of any MPO to the court.

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