

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 20, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 238

**Introduced by Assembly Member Gomez
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bonilla, Brown, Fox, Maienschein,
and Quirk-Silva)**

February 5, 2013

An act to ~~amend~~ *add* Section ~~6271 of~~ 6250.7 *to*, and to repeal Section 6273 of, the Family Code, *and to amend Section 646.91 of the Penal Code*, relating to protective orders.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 238, as amended, Gomez. Protective orders: California Restraining and Protective Order System.

Existing law authorizes a judicial officer in a civil proceeding relating to domestic violence to issue an emergency protective order if there is an immediate and present danger of domestic violence, abuse, or abduction of a child, or abuse of an elder or dependent adult. Existing law also authorizes a court in a criminal proceeding to issue an emergency protective order if there is an immediate and present danger of stalking, as specified. Existing law requires that a law enforcement officer, as defined, for purposes of court proceedings relating to domestic violence, or a peace officer in criminal proceedings relating to stalking, who requests an emergency protective order carry copies of the order while on duty.

Existing law ~~also requires that~~ the Department of Justice *to* maintain a computer database system, known as the California Restraining and Protective Order System, for protective and restraining orders and injunctions and make that information available to court clerks and law

enforcement personnel. Existing law requires that a law enforcement officer who requests an emergency protective order carry copies of the order while on duty.

This bill would delete the requirement that a law enforcement officer *or a peace officer, as described above*, who requests an emergency protective order carry copies of the order while on duty. The bill would instead require ~~that a~~ *the professional staff of the* law enforcement agency employing the officer who requests an emergency protective order enter that order into the California Restraining and Protective Order System within 2 hours of the issuance of the order. By imposing additional duties on law enforcement ~~officers~~ *employees*, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. ~~Section 6271 of the Family Code is amended to~~
- 2 ~~read:~~
- 3 ~~6271. A law enforcement officer who requests an emergency~~
- 4 ~~protective order shall do all of the following:~~
- 5 ~~(a) Serve the order on the restrained person, if the restrained~~
- 6 ~~person can reasonably be located.~~
- 7 ~~(b) Give a copy of the order to the protected person or, if the~~
- 8 ~~protected person is a minor child, to a parent or guardian of the~~
- 9 ~~endangered child who is not a restrained person, if the parent or~~
- 10 ~~guardian can reasonably be located, or to a person having~~
- 11 ~~temporary custody of the endangered child.~~
- 12 ~~(c) File a copy of the order with the court as soon as practicable~~
- 13 ~~after issuance.~~
- 14 ~~(d) Enter the order into the California Restraining and Protective~~
- 15 ~~Order System within two hours of the issuance of the order.~~

1 *SECTION 1. Section 6250.7 is added to the Family Code, to*
2 *read:*

3 6250.7. *When an emergency protective order is issued, the*
4 *professional staff of the law enforcement agency employing the*
5 *officer who requested the order shall enter the order into the*
6 *California Restraining and Protective Order System within two*
7 *hours of the issuance of the order.*

8 SEC. 2. Section 6273 of the Family Code is repealed.

9 SEC. 3. *Section 646.91 of the Penal Code is amended to read:*

10 646.91. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a judicial officer
11 may issue an ex parte emergency protective order where a peace
12 officer, as defined in Section 830.1, 830.2, or 830.32, asserts
13 reasonable grounds to believe that a person is in immediate and
14 present danger of stalking based upon the person’s allegation that
15 he or she has been willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly followed
16 or harassed by another person who has made a credible threat with
17 the intent of placing the person who is the target of the threat in
18 reasonable fear for his or her safety, or the safety of his or her
19 immediate family, within the meaning of Section 646.9.

20 (b) A peace officer who requests an emergency protective order
21 shall reduce the order to writing and sign it.

22 (c) An emergency protective order shall include all of the
23 following:

24 (1) A statement of the grounds asserted for the order.

25 (2) The date and time the order expires.

26 (3) The address of the superior court for the district or county
27 in which the protected party resides.

28 (4) The following statements, which shall be printed in English
29 and Spanish:

30 (A) “To the protected person: This order will last until the date
31 and time noted above. If you wish to seek continuing protection,
32 you will have to apply for an order from the court at the address
33 noted above. You may seek the advice of an attorney as to any
34 matter connected with your application for any future court orders.
35 The attorney should be consulted promptly so that the attorney
36 may assist you in making your application.”

37 (B) “To the restrained person: This order will last until the date
38 and time noted above. The protected party may, however, obtain
39 a more permanent restraining order from the court. You may seek
40 the advice of an attorney as to any matter connected with the

1 application. The attorney should be consulted promptly so that the
2 attorney may assist you in responding to the application. You may
3 not own, possess, purchase or receive, or attempt to purchase or
4 receive a firearm while this order is in effect.”

5 (d) An emergency protective order may be issued under this
6 section only if the judicial officer finds both of the following:

7 (1) That reasonable grounds have been asserted to believe that
8 an immediate and present danger of stalking, as defined in Section
9 646.9, exists.

10 (2) That an emergency protective order is necessary to prevent
11 the occurrence or reoccurrence of the stalking activity.

12 (e) An emergency protective order may include either of the
13 following specific orders as appropriate:

14 (1) A harassment protective order as described in Section 527.6
15 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

16 (2) A workplace violence protective order as described in
17 Section 527.8 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

18 (f) An emergency protective order shall be issued without
19 prejudice to any person.

20 (g) An emergency protective order expires at the earlier of the
21 following times:

22 (1) The close of judicial business on the fifth court day following
23 the day of its issuance.

24 (2) The seventh calendar day following the day of its issuance.

25 (h) A peace officer who requests an emergency protective order
26 shall do all of the following:

27 (1) Serve the order on the restrained person, if the restrained
28 person can reasonably be located.

29 (2) Give a copy of the order to the protected person, or, if the
30 protected person is a minor child, to a parent or guardian of the
31 protected child if the parent or guardian can reasonably be located,
32 or to a person having temporary custody of the child.

33 (3) File a copy of the order with the court as soon as practicable
34 after issuance.

35 (i) A peace officer shall use every reasonable means to enforce
36 an emergency protective order.

37 (j) A peace officer who acts in good faith to enforce an
38 emergency protective order is not civilly or criminally liable.

39 (k) ~~A peace officer who requests~~ *When an emergency protective*
40 ~~order under is issued pursuant to this section shall carry copies of~~

1 ~~the order while on duty.~~ *section, the professional staff of the law*
2 *enforcement agency employing the officer who requested the order*
3 *shall enter the order into the California Restraining and Protective*
4 *Order System within two hours of the issuance of the order.*

5 (l) A peace officer described in subdivision (a) or (b) of Section
6 830.32 who requests an emergency protective order pursuant to
7 this section shall also notify the sheriff or police chief of the city
8 in whose jurisdiction the peace officer's college or school is located
9 after issuance of the order.

10 (m) "Judicial officer," as used in this section, means a judge,
11 commissioner, or referee.

12 (n) A person subject to an emergency protective order under
13 this section shall not own, possess, purchase, or receive a firearm
14 while the order is in effect.

15 (o) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a court
16 to issue an emergency protective order prohibiting speech or other
17 activities that are constitutionally protected or protected by the
18 laws of this state or by the United States or activities occurring
19 during a labor dispute, as defined by Section 527.3 of the Code of
20 Civil Procedure, including, but not limited to, picketing and hand
21 billing.

22 (p) The Judicial Council shall develop forms, instructions, and
23 rules for the scheduling of hearings and other procedures
24 established pursuant to this section.

25 (q) Any intentional disobedience of any emergency protective
26 order granted under this section is punishable pursuant to Section
27 166. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prevent
28 punishment under Section 646.9, in lieu of punishment under this
29 section, if a violation of Section 646.9 is also pled and proven.

30 ~~SEC. 3.~~

31 *SEC. 4.* If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
32 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
33 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
34 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
35 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

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