

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: June 7, 2007
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: SB 353
AUTHOR: S. Kuehl

BILL SUMMARY: Protective Orders: Companion Animals

This bill would authorize the courts to grant exclusive care, possession, or control of an animal belonging to the respondent, petitioner, or a minor living with the respondent or petitioner to the petitioner in a protective order action. In addition, it would require the Judicial Council (Council) to modify court forms to reflect this change by July 1, 2009.

FISCAL SUMMARY

The Council's costs to implement the requirements of this measure would be driven by the marginal increase in workload and printing expenses required to update court forms. However, the Council indicates that it routinely does these types of updates and has resources dedicated to performing these tasks. Therefore, it estimates that any costs would be minor and absorbable within existing resources.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Amendments to this bill since our analysis of the April 10, 2007 version are minor and do not alter our position. These amendments include changing the word "custody" to "possession."

COMMENTS

Existing law provides that:

- The court may issue an *ex parte* order (protective order) enjoining a party from behaviors including, but not limited to, attacking, striking, contacting, either directly or indirectly, by mail or otherwise, and coming within a specified distance of another party.
- Upon a showing of good cause, the protective order can be extended to other named family or household members.

This bill would authorize the courts to include a grant of exclusive care, possession, or control of any animals owned, possessed, leased, kept or held by the petitioner, respondent, or minor child living with the petitioner or respondent to the petitioner in a protective order action.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							Fund Code	
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)								
	CO	PROP	2006-2007		2007-2008		2008-2009			
	RV	98	FC	FC	FC	FC				
0250/Jud Branch	SO	No	----- No/Minor Fiscal Impact -----							0001

Analyst/Principal (0211) J. Carosone	Date	Program Budget Manager Todd Jerue	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

BILL ANALYSIS Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)

