

**Department of Planning and Budget**  
**2026 General Assembly Session**  
**State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** HB208

**Bill Title:** Anti-harassment orders.

**Patron:** Williams

**Bill Summary:** Creates a procedure for issuing an anti-harassment order, defined in the bill. The bill also provides that (i) an anti-harassment order does not constitute a restraining order to disqualify a person from obtaining a concealed handgun permit and (ii) a violation of an anti-harassment order is punishable as contempt of court.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes

**Items Impacted:** 33, 34, 35

**Explanation:** The proposed legislation would create a court process wherein anti-harassment orders could be issued by the courts. This process would require that representation be appointed in instances where the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) is applicable, or that a guardian ad litem (GAL) be appointed when required by law. In such instances where there is no provision for the compensation of counsel or a GAL, the court would be able to order such counsel or GAL to be compensated for services in accordance with Va. Code § 19.2-163. Compensated services would be paid from the Criminal Fund.

**Fiscal Summary:** There is not enough available information to reliably estimate the fiscal impact of this bill on the revenues of the Criminal Fund, and as such the fiscal impact is indeterminate.

**Fiscal Analysis:** It cannot be determined how many individuals would file for the issuance of an anti-harassment order if this process were available. Additionally, it cannot be determined how many such cases would result in a court ordering compensation for the appointment of counsel under the SCRA or appointment of a GAL. As such, the fiscal impact is indeterminate.

**Other:** None