

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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This bill clarifies that a domestic abuse no contact order (DANCO) is a criminal order (to distinguish it from similar civil orders). It also strikes language in paragraph (c), which requires a DANCO to be issued in a proceeding separate from a pretrial release or sentencing proceeding.

Background: A DANCO is an order issued against a defendant in a criminal or juvenile delinquency proceeding for: domestic abuse, harassment or stalking involving a family or household member, or a violation of an order for protection or a prior DANCO. In contrast, orders for protection (OFP) and restraining orders (RO) are issued as part of a civil proceeding in which the victim petitions the court for protection. Similar penalties apply to violations of OFPs, ROs, and DANCOS.