

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1766**

Chapter 308, Laws of 2023

68th Legislature  
2023 Regular Session

PROTECTION ORDERS—HOPE CARD PROGRAM

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2025

Passed by the House April 13, 2023  
Yeas 96 Nays 0

LAURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 8, 2023  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

DENNY HECK

**President of the Senate**

Approved May 4, 2023 3:37 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1766** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BERNARD DEAN

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

May 5, 2023

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1766**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2023 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      68th Legislature                      2023 Regular Session**

**By** House Civil Rights & Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives Griffey, Davis, Senn, Dent, Callan, and Cheney)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/23.

1            AN ACT Relating to the creation of a hope card program; adding a  
2 new section to chapter 7.105 RCW; creating a new section; and  
3 providing an effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

6            (1) Washington state has been a national leader in adopting legal  
7 protections to prevent and respond to abuse, violence, harassment,  
8 stalking, neglect, and other threatening behaviors, through the  
9 enactment of different types of civil protection orders, which are  
10 intended to provide an efficient means to obtain protection against  
11 perpetrators of these harms. Protection orders are essential tools  
12 that can increase safety for victims of domestic violence, sexual  
13 assault, stalking, abuse of vulnerable adults, and unlawful  
14 harassment, by empowering them to obtain immediate protection for  
15 themselves without having to rely on the criminal legal system. From  
16 2018 through 2021, more than 83,000 full protection order cases were  
17 filed in Washington courts, with domestic violence protection order  
18 cases making up nearly 58 percent of that total.

19            (2) Washingtonians who receive protection orders, however, are  
20 often confronted by a difficult choice—always carry a paper copy of  
21 the order with them, an inconvenient option that could result in the

1 document being damaged or lost, or risk not having access to proper  
2 documentation should assistance from law enforcement or emergency  
3 services become necessary.

4 (3) Numerous other states including Oregon, Idaho, and Montana  
5 have successfully implemented a solution by establishing hope card  
6 programs. Hope cards are durable, laminated cards, similar in  
7 construction to a driver's license, that contain the vital  
8 information about a protection order that first responders need to  
9 quickly verify its existence.

10 (4) Establishing a hope card program in Washington will not only  
11 relieve protection order recipients of an unnecessary source of  
12 frustration and stress, but also increase the effectiveness of these  
13 crucial sources of safety and security for thousands of  
14 Washingtonians.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 7.105  
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 (1) The administrative office of the courts shall develop a  
18 program for the issuance of protection order hope cards in scannable  
19 electronic format by superior and district courts. The administrative  
20 office of the courts shall develop the program in collaboration with  
21 the Washington state superior court judges' association, the  
22 Washington state district and municipal court judges' association,  
23 the Washington state association of county clerks, association of  
24 Washington superior court administrators, district and municipal  
25 court management association, and the Washington association of  
26 sheriffs and police chiefs, and shall make reasonably feasible  
27 efforts to solicit and incorporate input from appropriate stakeholder  
28 groups, including representatives from victim advocacy groups, law  
29 enforcement agencies, and the department of licensing.

30 (2)(a) A hope card must be in a scannable electronic format  
31 including, but not limited to, a barcode, data matrix code, or a  
32 quick response code, and must contain, without limitations, the  
33 following:

34 (i) The restrained person's name, date of birth, sex, race, eye  
35 color, hair color, height, weight, and other distinguishing features;

36 (ii) The protected person's name and date of birth and the names  
37 and dates of birth of any minor children protected under the order;  
38 and

1 (iii) Information about the protection order including, but not  
2 limited to, the issuing court, the case number, the date of issuance  
3 and date of expiration of the order, and the relevant details of the  
4 order, including any locations from which the person is restrained.

5 (b) If feasible, the information stored in a scannable electronic  
6 format and accessible through a barcode, data matrix code, or a quick  
7 response code must include a digital record of the protection order  
8 as entered and provide access to the entire case history, including  
9 the petition for protection order, statement, declaration, temporary  
10 order, hearing notice, and proof of service.

11 (3) Commencing on January 1, 2025, a person who has been issued a  
12 valid full protection order may request a hope card from the clerk of  
13 the issuing court at the time the order is entered or at any time  
14 prior to the expiration of the order.

15 (4) A person requesting a hope card may not be charged a fee for  
16 the issuance of an original and one duplicate hope card.

17 (5) A hope card has the same effect as the underlying protection  
18 order.

19 (6) For the purposes of this section, "full protection order"  
20 means a domestic violence protection order, a sexual assault  
21 protection order, a stalking protection order, a vulnerable adult  
22 protection order, or an antiharassment protection order, as defined  
23 in this chapter.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect January 1, 2025.

Passed by the House April 13, 2023.

Passed by the Senate April 8, 2023.

Approved by the Governor May 4, 2023.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 5, 2023.

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