

SUBJECT:	Requiring a study on the effectiveness of protective orders
COMMITTEE:	Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence — favorable, without amendment
VOTE:	8 ayes — Leach, Julie Johnson, Davis, Flores, Murr, Schofield, Slawson, Vasut  0 nays  1 absent — Moody
WITNESSES:	For — ( <i>Registered, but did not testify</i> : M Paige Williams, Dallas County Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot; Heather Bellino, Texas Advocacy Project; John Wilkerson, Texas Municipal Police Association)  Against — None
BACKGROUND:	Some have suggested that conducting a study on the effectiveness of protective orders could help to improve enforcement of protective orders.
DIGEST:	<p>HB 3696 would require the Office of Court Administration (OCA) to conduct a study on the effectiveness of protective orders in protecting victims of violence in the state. OCA would be required to create a report based on the study that included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• an evaluation concerning the effectiveness of protective orders in protecting victims of violence by deterring the person who was the subject of the order from engaging in the prohibited conduct; and</li><li>• legislative recommendations on methods to improve the enforcement of protective orders.</li></ul> <p>By September 1, 2024, OCA would be required to submit the report to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House, and appropriate committees of the legislature.</p> <p>The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds</p>

record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2023. The bill would expire January 1, 2025.