

When a petitioner receives a protective order, they are given a large packet to carry with them at all times. The packet contains information regarding the respondent and the restrictions on contact. The packet is unwieldy (does not fit into a typical pants pocket) and daunting.

In the case of contact from, or proximity to the respondent--someone who has caused bodily harm to the petitioner--it can be extremely scary and disorienting. In these situations, it can be easy for 3rd parties, or associates of the respondent to exploit the petitioner's reasonable fear to cause further harm to the petitioner (such as financial exploitation, or even abduction, example: "get in my car, I'll take you to safety").

These cards would be reminders to the petitioner that they need to rely on law enforcement, and to not trust strangers in the vicinity. These cards would provide law enforcement with less to sort through when arriving on the scene. These cards would empower and remind petitioners to enforce their own safety through intended means.

Please vote in favor of this bill to increase public safety. -- Glenn Gutman