

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 918

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HICKS.

1853H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 455.020, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to costs for filing orders of protection.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 455.020, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 455.020, to read as follows:

- 455.020. 1. Any person who has been subject to domestic violence by a present or former family or household member, or who has been the victim of stalking or sexual assault, may seek relief under sections 455.010 to 455.085 by filing a verified petition alleging such domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault by the respondent. **The cost of filing the petition shall be the standard court costs otherwise due for instituting a civil action in the circuit court; however, if such petition is accompanied by a police report that details the incident that prompted the order of protection petition, the filing fee shall be waived.**
2. A person's right to relief under sections 455.010 to 455.085 shall not be affected by the person leaving the residence or household to avoid domestic violence.
3. Any protection order issued pursuant to sections 455.010 to 455.085 shall be effective throughout the state in all cities and counties.

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EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.