

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 3808

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 9, 2023

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3808 (1R).

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 3808 (1R) allows a court that issues a temporary restraining order (TRO) or permanent restraining order (PRO) under the “Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991,” P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) to include an order requiring the landlord of a residential dwelling unit to change the locks on the dwelling unit where the victim of domestic violence resides.

Under the bill, a victim who has obtained a TRO or PRO would notify the landlord that an order to change the dwelling’s locks has been granted by the court.

The bill also authorizes a victim who has obtained a TRO or PRO to change the locks on a residential dwelling if the landlord has not installed new locks within 48 hours of receiving the written request. A victim who changes the locks would be required to notify the landlord that the locks on the unit have been changed and provide a copy of the new keys within 48 hours of changing the locks.

The bill requires the victim to pay for the costs associated with changing the locks but allows the tenant to be reimbursed by the defendant.