

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 25, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2569

Introduced by Assembly Member Melendez

February 19, 2016

An act to amend Section 290.46 of the Penal Code, relating to sex offenders.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2569, as amended, Melendez. Registered sex offenders.

Existing law requires the Department of Justice to make available specified information about registered sex offenders via an Internet Web site. Existing law authorizes an offender who has been convicted of the commission or attempted commission of felony sexual battery, misdemeanor child molestation, or other specified sexual offenses, *offenses* to apply to the department for exclusion from the Internet Web site. Existing law also authorizes an offender who has been convicted of the commission or attempted commission of an offense for which the offender is on probation at the time of his or her application or has successfully completed probation, *probation* to apply for exclusion from the Internet Web site if he or she submits a certified copy of an official court document, as specified, that clearly demonstrates that the offender was the victim's parent, stepparent, sibling, or grandparent, and the crime did not involve specified sexual offenses.

~~This bill would terminate the authorization for an offender who commits a specified sexual offense against a victim who is the child, stepchild, sibling, or grandchild of the offender from being eligible for exclusion from the Internet Web site.~~

This bill would require the Department of Justice Office of Victim Assistance, prior to the granting of an application for an exclusion, to speak to the victim to determine if granting the exclusion would be in the best interest of the victim. The bill would require that an offender who is on probation at the time of his or her application for an exclusion be on probation for at least one year prior to the granting of his or her exclusion.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 290.46 of the Penal Code is amended to
2 read:
3 290.46. (a) (1) On or before the dates specified in this section,
4 the Department of Justice shall make available information
5 concerning persons who are required to register pursuant to Section
6 290 to the public via an Internet Web site as specified in this
7 section. The department shall update the Internet Web site on an
8 ongoing basis. All information identifying the victim by name,
9 birth date, address, or relationship to the registrant shall be
10 excluded from the Internet Web site. The name or address of the
11 person's employer and the listed person's criminal history other
12 than the specific crimes for which the person is required to register
13 shall not be included on the Internet Web site. The Internet Web
14 site shall be translated into languages other than English as
15 determined by the department.
16 (2) (A) On or before July 1, 2010, the Department of Justice
17 shall make available to the public, via an Internet Web site as
18 specified in this section, as to any person described in subdivision
19 (b), (c), or (d), the following information:
20 (i) The year of conviction of his or her most recent offense
21 requiring registration pursuant to Section 290.
22 (ii) The year he or she was released from incarceration for that
23 offense.
24 (iii) Whether he or she was subsequently incarcerated for any
25 other felony, if that fact is reported to the department. If the
26 department has no information about a subsequent incarceration
27 for any felony, that fact shall be noted on the Internet Web site.

1 However, no year of conviction shall be made available to the
2 public unless the department also is able to make available the
3 corresponding year of release of incarceration for that offense, and
4 the required notation regarding any subsequent felony.

5 (B) (i) Any state facility that releases from incarceration a
6 person who was incarcerated because of a crime for which he or
7 she is required to register as a sex offender pursuant to Section
8 290 shall, within 30 days of release, provide the year of release
9 for his or her most recent offense requiring registration to the
10 Department of Justice in a manner and format approved by the
11 department.

12 (ii) Any state facility that releases a person who is required to
13 register pursuant to Section 290 from incarceration whose
14 incarceration was for a felony committed subsequently to the
15 offense for which he or she is required to register shall, within 30
16 days of release, advise the Department of Justice of that fact.

17 (iii) Any state facility that, prior to January 1, 2007, released
18 from incarceration a person who was incarcerated because of a
19 crime for which he or she is required to register as a sex offender
20 pursuant to Section 290 shall provide the year of release for his or
21 her most recent offense requiring registration to the Department
22 of Justice in a manner and format approved by the department.
23 The information provided by the Department of Corrections and
24 Rehabilitation shall be limited to information that is currently
25 maintained in an electronic format.

26 (iv) Any state facility that, prior to January 1, 2007, released a
27 person who is required to register pursuant to Section 290 from
28 incarceration whose incarceration was for a felony committed
29 subsequently to the offense for which he or she is required to
30 register shall advise the Department of Justice of that fact in a
31 manner and format approved by the department. The information
32 provided by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
33 shall be limited to information that is currently maintained in an
34 electronic format.

35 (3) The State Department of State Hospitals shall provide to the
36 Department of Justice Sex Offender Tracking Program the names
37 of all persons committed to its custody pursuant to Article 4
38 (commencing with Section 6600) of Chapter 2 of Part 2 of Division
39 6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, within 30 days of

1 commitment, and shall provide the names of all of those persons
2 released from its custody within five working days of release.

3 (b) (1) On or before July 1, 2005, with respect to a person who
4 has been convicted of the commission or the attempted commission
5 of any of the offenses listed in, or who is described in, paragraph
6 (2), the Department of Justice shall make available to the public
7 via the Internet Web site his or her name and known aliases, a
8 photograph, a physical description, including gender and race, date
9 of birth, criminal history, prior adjudication as a sexually violent
10 predator, the address at which the person resides, and any other
11 information that the Department of Justice deems relevant, but not
12 the information excluded pursuant to subdivision (a). On or before
13 January 1, 2013, the department shall make available to the public
14 via the Internet Web site his or her static SARATSO score and
15 information on an elevated risk level based on the SARATSO
16 future violence tool.

17 (2) This subdivision shall apply to the following offenses and
18 offenders:

19 (A) Section 187 committed in the perpetration, or an attempt to
20 perpetrate, rape or any act punishable under Section 286, 288,
21 288a, or 289.

22 (B) Section 207 committed with intent to violate Section 261,
23 286, 288, 288a, or 289.

24 (C) Section 209 committed with intent to violate Section 261,
25 286, 288, 288a, or 289.

26 (D) Paragraph (2) or (6) of subdivision (a) of Section 261.

27 (E) Section 264.1.

28 (F) Section 269.

29 (G) Subdivision (c) or (d) of Section 286.

30 (H) Subdivision (a), (b), or (c) of Section 288, provided that the
31 offense is a felony.

32 (I) Subdivision (c) or (d) of Section 288a.

33 (J) Section 288.3, provided that the offense is a felony.

34 (K) Section 288.4, provided that the offense is a felony.

35 (L) Section 288.5.

36 (M) Subdivision (a) or (j) of Section 289.

37 (N) Section 288.7.

38 (O) Any person who has ever been adjudicated a sexually violent
39 predator, as defined in Section 6600 of the Welfare and Institutions
40 Code.

1 (P) A felony violation of Section 311.1.

2 (Q) A felony violation of subdivision (b), (c), or (d) of Section
3 311.2.

4 (R) A felony violation of Section 311.3.

5 (S) A felony violation of subdivision (a), (b), or (c) of Section
6 311.4.

7 (T) Section 311.10.

8 (U) A felony violation of Section 311.11.

9 (c) (1) On or before July 1, 2005, with respect to a person who
10 has been convicted of the commission or the attempted commission
11 of any of the offenses listed in paragraph (2), the Department of
12 Justice shall make available to the public via the Internet Web site
13 his or her name and known aliases, a photograph, a physical
14 description, including gender and race, date of birth, criminal
15 history, the community of residence and ZIP Code in which the
16 person resides or the county in which the person is registered as a
17 transient, and any other information that the Department of Justice
18 deems relevant, but not the information excluded pursuant to
19 subdivision (a). On or before July 1, 2006, the Department of
20 Justice shall determine whether any person convicted of an offense
21 listed in paragraph (2) also has one or more prior or subsequent
22 convictions of an offense listed in subdivision (c) of Section 290,
23 and, for those persons, the Department of Justice shall make
24 available to the public via the Internet Web site the address at
25 which the person resides. However, the address at which the person
26 resides shall not be disclosed until a determination is made that
27 the person is, by virtue of his or her additional prior or subsequent
28 conviction of an offense listed in subdivision (c) of Section 290,
29 subject to this subdivision.

30 (2) This subdivision shall apply to the following offenses:

31 (A) Section 220, except assault to commit mayhem.

32 (B) Paragraph (1), (3), or (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 261.

33 (C) Paragraph (2) of subdivision (b), or subdivision (f), (g), or
34 (i), of Section 286.

35 (D) Paragraph (2) of subdivision (b), or subdivision (f), (g), or
36 (i), of Section 288a.

37 (E) Subdivision (b), (d), (e), or (i) of Section 289.

38 (d) (1) On or before July 1, 2005, with respect to a person who
39 has been convicted of the commission or the attempted commission
40 of any of the offenses listed in, or who is described in, this

subdivision, the Department of Justice shall make available to the public via the Internet Web site his or her name and known aliases, a photograph, a physical description, including gender and race, date of birth, criminal history, the community of residence and ZIP Code in which the person resides or the county in which the person is registered as a transient, and any other information that the Department of Justice deems relevant, but not the information excluded pursuant to subdivision (a) or the address at which the person resides.

(2) This subdivision shall apply to the following offenses and offenders:

(A) Subdivision (a) of Section 243.4, provided that the offense is a felony.

(B) Section 266, provided that the offense is a felony.

(C) Section 266c, provided that the offense is a felony.

(D) Section 266j.

(E) Section 267.

(F) Subdivision (c) of Section 288, provided that the offense is a misdemeanor.

(G) Section 288.3, provided that the offense is a misdemeanor.

(H) Section 288.4, provided that the offense is a misdemeanor.

(I) Section 626.81.

(J) Section 647.6.

(K) Section 653c.

(L) Any person required to register pursuant to Section 290 based upon an out-of-state conviction, unless that person is excluded from the Internet Web site pursuant to subdivision (e). However, if the Department of Justice has determined that the out-of-state crime, if committed or attempted in this state, would have been punishable in this state as a crime described in subdivision (c) of Section 290, the person shall be placed on the Internet Web site as provided in subdivision (b) or (c), as applicable to the crime.

(e) (1) If a person has been convicted of the commission or the attempted commission of any of the offenses listed in this subdivision, and he or she has been convicted of no other offense listed in subdivision (b), (c), or (d) other than those listed in this subdivision, that person may file an application with the Department of Justice, on a form approved by the department, for exclusion from the Internet Web site. If the department determines

1 that the person meets the requirements of this subdivision, the
2 department shall grant the exclusion and no information concerning
3 the person shall be made available via the Internet Web site
4 described in this section. He or she bears the burden of proving
5 the facts that make him or her eligible for exclusion from the
6 Internet Web site. However, a person who has filed for or been
7 granted an exclusion from the Internet Web site is not relieved of
8 his or her duty to register as a sex offender pursuant to Section
9 290 nor from any otherwise applicable provision of law.

10 (2) This subdivision shall apply to the following offenses:

11 (A) A felony violation of subdivision (a) of Section 243.4.

12 (B) Section 647.6, if the offense is a misdemeanor.

13 (C) A felony violation of Section 311.1, subdivision (b), (c), or
14 (d) of Section 311.2, or Section 311.3, 311.4, 311.10, or 311.11 if
15 the person submits to the department a certified copy of a probation
16 report filed in court that clearly states that all victims involved in
17 the commission of the offense were at least 16 years of age or older
18 at the time of the commission of the offense.

19 (D) (i) *An offense for which the offender successfully completed*
20 *probation, provided that the offender submits to the department a*
21 *certified copy of a probation report, presentencing report, report*
22 *prepared pursuant to Section 288.1, or other official court*
23 *document that clearly demonstrates that the offender was the*
24 *victim's parent, stepparent, sibling, or grandparent and that the*
25 *crime did not involve either oral copulation or penetration of the*
26 *vagina or rectum of either the victim or the offender by the penis*
27 *of the other or by any foreign object.*

28 (ii) *An offense for which the offender is on probation at the time*
29 *of his or her application, provided that the offender submits to the*
30 *department a certified copy of a probation report, presentencing*
31 *report, report prepared pursuant to Section 288.1, or other official*
32 *court document that clearly demonstrates that the offender was*
33 *the victim's parent, stepparent, sibling, or grandparent and that*
34 *the crime did not involve either oral copulation or penetration of*
35 *the vagina or rectum of either the victim or the offender by the*
36 *penis of the other or by any foreign object. An offender who is on*
37 *probation at the time of his or her application shall have been on*
38 *probation for at least one year prior to the granting of his or her*
39 *application.*

1 (iii) Prior to the granting of an application under this
2 subparagraph, the Department of Justice Office of Victim
3 Assistance shall speak to the victim to determine if granting the
4 exemption would be in the best interest of the victim.

5 (iv) If, subsequent to his or her application, the offender commits
6 a violation of probation resulting in his or her incarceration in
7 county jail or state prison, his or her exclusion, or application for
8 exclusion, from the Internet Web site shall be terminated.

9 (v) For the purposes of this subparagraph, “successfully
10 completed probation” means that during the period of probation
11 the offender neither received additional county jail or state prison
12 time for a violation of probation nor was convicted of another
13 offense resulting in a sentence to county jail or state prison.

14 (3) If the department determines that a person who was granted
15 an exclusion under a former version of this subdivision would not
16 qualify for an exclusion under the current version of this
17 subdivision, the department shall rescind the exclusion, make a
18 reasonable effort to provide notification to the person that the
19 exclusion has been rescinded, and, no sooner than 30 days after
20 notification is attempted, make information about the offender
21 available to the public on the Internet Web site as provided in this
22 section.

23 (4) Effective January 1, 2012, no person shall be excluded
24 pursuant to this subdivision unless the offender has submitted to
25 the department documentation sufficient for the department to
26 determine that he or she has a SARATSO risk level of low or
27 moderate-low.

28 (f) The Department of Justice shall make a reasonable effort to
29 provide notification to persons who have been convicted of the
30 commission or attempted commission of an offense specified in
31 subdivision (b), (c), or (d), that on or before July 1, 2005, the
32 department is required to make information about specified sex
33 offenders available to the public via an Internet Web site as
34 specified in this section. The Department of Justice shall also make
35 a reasonable effort to provide notice that some offenders are
36 eligible to apply for exclusion from the Internet Web site.

37 (g) (1) A designated law enforcement entity, as defined in
38 subdivision (f) of Section 290.45, may make available information
39 concerning persons who are required to register pursuant to Section

1 290 to the public via an Internet Web site as specified in paragraph
2 (2).

3 (2) The law enforcement entity may make available by way of
4 an Internet Web site the information described in subdivision (c)
5 if it determines that the public disclosure of the information about
6 a specific offender by way of the entity's Internet Web site is
7 necessary to ensure the public safety based upon information
8 available to the entity concerning that specific offender.

9 (3) The information that may be provided pursuant to this
10 subdivision may include the information specified in subdivision
11 (b) of Section 290.45. However, that offender's address may not
12 be disclosed unless he or she is a person whose address is on the
13 Department of Justice's Internet Web site pursuant to subdivision
14 (b) or (c).

15 (h) For purposes of this section, "offense" includes the statutory
16 predecessors of that offense, or any offense committed in another
17 jurisdiction that, if committed or attempted to be committed in this
18 state, would have been punishable in this state as an offense listed
19 in subdivision (c) of Section 290.

20 (i) Notwithstanding Section 6254.5 of the Government Code,
21 disclosure of information pursuant to this section is not a waiver
22 of exemptions under Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250)
23 of Title 1 of Division 7 of the Government Code and does not
24 affect other statutory restrictions on disclosure in other situations.

25 (j) (1) Any person who uses information disclosed pursuant to
26 this section to commit a misdemeanor shall be subject to, in
27 addition to any other penalty or fine imposed, a fine of not less
28 than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) and not more than fifty
29 thousand dollars (\$50,000).

30 (2) Any person who uses information disclosed pursuant to this
31 section to commit a felony shall be punished, in addition and
32 consecutive to any other punishment, by a five-year term of
33 imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170.

34 (k) Any person who is required to register pursuant to Section
35 290 who enters an Internet Web site established pursuant to this
36 section shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand
37 dollars (\$1,000), imprisonment in a county jail for a period not to
38 exceed six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

39 (l) (1) A person is authorized to use information disclosed
40 pursuant to this section only to protect a person at risk.

(2) Except as authorized under paragraph (1) or any other provision of law, use of any information that is disclosed pursuant to this section for purposes relating to any of the following is prohibited:

- (A) Health insurance.
- (B) Insurance.
- (C) Loans.
- (D) Credit.
- (E) Employment.
- (F) Education, scholarships, or fellowships.
- (G) Housing or accommodations.
- (H) Benefits, privileges, or services provided by any business establishment.

(3) This section shall not affect authorized access to, or use of, information pursuant to, among other provisions, Sections 11105 and 11105.3, Section 8808 of the Family Code, Sections 777.5 and 14409.2 of the Financial Code, Sections 1522.01 and 1596.871 of the Health and Safety Code, and Section 432.7 of the Labor Code.

(4) (A) Any use of information disclosed pursuant to this section for purposes other than those provided by paragraph (1) or in violation of paragraph (2) shall make the user liable for the actual damages, and any amount that may be determined by a jury or a court sitting without a jury, not exceeding three times the amount of actual damage, and not less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250), and attorney's fees, exemplary damages, or a civil penalty not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

(B) Whenever there is reasonable cause to believe that any person or group of persons is engaged in a pattern or practice of misuse of the information available via an Internet Web site established pursuant to this section in violation of paragraph (2), the Attorney General, any district attorney, or city attorney, or any person aggrieved by the misuse is authorized to bring a civil action in the appropriate court requesting preventive relief, including an application for a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, or other order against the person or group of persons responsible for the pattern or practice of misuse. The foregoing remedies shall be independent of any other remedies or procedures that may be available to an aggrieved party under other provisions

1 of law, including Part 2 (commencing with Section 43) of Division
2 1 of the Civil Code.

3 (m) The public notification provisions of this section are
4 applicable to every person described in this section, without regard
5 to when his or her crimes were committed or his or her duty to
6 register pursuant to Section 290 arose, and to every offense
7 described in this section, regardless of when it was committed.

8 (n) A designated law enforcement entity and its employees shall
9 be immune from liability for good faith conduct under this section.

10 (o) The Attorney General, in collaboration with local law
11 enforcement and others knowledgeable about sex offenders, shall
12 develop strategies to assist members of the public in understanding
13 and using publicly available information about registered sex
14 offenders to further public safety. These strategies may include,
15 but are not limited to, a hotline for community inquiries,
16 neighborhood and business guidelines for how to respond to
17 information posted on this Internet Web site, and any other resource
18 that promotes public education about these offenders.

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