

HB 1632-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-3010
09/08

HOUSE BILL ***1632-FN***

AN ACT relative to the lethality assessment program screening tool.

SPONSORS: Rep. Manos, Rock. 12; Rep. Beauchemin, Hills. 3; Rep. Gregg, Hills. 7; Rep. Johnson, Straf. 11; Rep. Meuse, Rock. 37; Rep. Newell, Ches. 4; Rep. Selig, Straf. 10; Rep. M. Smith, Straf. 10; Sen. Altschiller, Dist 24

COMMITTEE: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

ANALYSIS

This bill requires a lethality assessment program screening tool to be used in various investigations related to domestic violence.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT relative to the lethality assessment program screening tool.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Paragraph; Domestic Violence; Lethality Assessment Program. Amend RSA 631:2-b by
2 inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

3 III-a. The lethality assessment program (LAP) screening tool shall be administered by all
4 law enforcement agencies with the victim in suspected domestic violence responses or investigations.
5 The results of each LAP screening that are screened in shall be filed by the law enforcement agency
6 or the prosecutor with the court at arraignment of defendant.

7 2 New Paragraph; Violation of Protective Order; Lethality Assessment Form. Amend RSA 173-
8 B:9 by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraph:

9 VI. The lethality assessment program (LAP) screening tool shall be administered by all law
10 enforcement agencies with the victim in suspected violation of protective order responses or
11 investigations. The results of each LAP screening that are screened in shall be filed by the law
12 enforcement agency or the prosecutor with the court at arraignment of defendant.

13 3 New Subparagraph; Stalking; Lethality Assessment Program. Amend RSA 633:3-a, VIII by
14 inserting after subparagraph (b) the following new subparagraph:

15 (c) The lethality assessment program (LAP) screening tool shall be administered by all
16 law enforcement agencies with the victim in all suspected stalking-domestic violence responses or
17 investigations. The results of each LAP screening that are screened in shall be filed by the law
18 enforcement agency or the prosecutor with the court at arraignment of defendant.

19 4 New Paragraph; Restraining Orders; Lethality Assessment Program. Amend RSA 458:16 by
20 inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

21 IV. The lethality assessment program (LAP) screening tool shall be administered by all law
22 enforcement agencies with the victim in all suspected violation of protective order responses or
23 investigations. The results of each LAP screening that are screened in shall be filed by the law
24 enforcement agency or the prosecutor with the court at arraignment of defendant.

25 5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

**HB 1632-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT relative to the lethality assessment program screening tool.

FISCAL IMPACT: This bill does not provide funding, nor does it authorize new positions.

Estimated State Impact				
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Revenue Fund(s)</i>	None			
Expenditures*	\$0	\$268,000	\$239,000	\$249,000
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	General Fund			
Appropriations*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	None			

*Expenditure = Cost of bill

*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill

Estimated Political Subdivision Impact				
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
County Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
County Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable		
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable		

METHODOLOGY:

This bill requires all law enforcement agencies to conduct a lethality assessment screen under the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) and sets criteria for when screens must be completed. Currently, LAP participation is voluntary, limited to trained officers, and administered by the Department of Justice, with about 45% of police departments submitting LAP data. Mandating statewide participation would significantly increase the demand for training, data management, and technical assistance. To meet these obligations, the Department of Justice would need to add two positions: a full-time investigator to provide LAP training and support, and a program coordinator to manage statewide training, data collection, analysis, and ongoing assistance to law enforcement agencies. Below are the estimated total costs of the positions (it should be noted that this bill provides neither authorization nor appropriation for new positions):

	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Investigator	158,000	128,000	133,000
Program Coordinator	110,000	111,000	116,000

Total	268,000	239,000	249,000
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The Department states that Troopers that respond to incidents of domestic violence and stalking will be able to perform the required LAP screening during the response and will be able to provide the results of this screening to be filed with the court at the time of arraignment as a matter of the normal course of their duties. Therefore, it does not anticipate this bill having any impact on its budget.

It is unclear if there will be any additional county or municipal expenditures associated with adopting the LAP, as the program is free and training is provided by the Department of Justice.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Justice, Department of Safety, and New Hampshire Municipal Association