

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 1, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 23, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 14, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 29, 2016

SENATE BILL

No. 1121

Introduced by Senator Leno

February 17, 2016

An act to amend Sections 1546, 1546.1, and 1546.2 of the Penal Code, relating to privacy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1121, as amended, Leno. Privacy: electronic communications: search warrant.

Existing law prohibits a government entity from compelling the production ~~of~~ *of*, or access ~~to~~ *to*, electronic communication information or electronic device information, as defined, without a search warrant, wiretap order, order for electronic reader records, or subpoena issued pursuant to specified conditions, except for emergency situations, as defined. Existing law also specifies the conditions under which a government entity may access electronic device information by means of physical interaction or electronic communication with the device, such as pursuant to a search warrant, wiretap order, or consent of the owner of the device.

This bill would additionally authorize a government entity, without a warrant or other order, to access electronic device information by means of physical interaction or electronic communication with the device *if the device is seized from an authorized possessor, as defined, who is serving a term of parole, as specified; if the device is seized from*

an authorized possessor who is subject to an electronic device search as a condition of probation, postrelease community supervision, mandatory supervision, or pretrial release, as specified; or for the purpose of accessing information concerning the location or the telephone number of the electronic device in order to respond to an emergency 911 call from that device. The bill would also provide that the definition of “electronic device” for purposes of the bill does not include a magnetic strip on a driver’s license or identification card, as prescribed.

Existing law authorizes a service provider to voluntarily disclose electronic communication information or subscriber ~~information~~. *information, as specified.* Existing law requires a government entity to destroy that information within 90 days unless one or more specified circumstances apply, including, among others, the government entity has or obtains the specific consent of the sender or recipient of the electronic communications about which information was disclosed.

This bill would also authorize a government entity to retain the information beyond 90 days if the service provider or subscriber is, or discloses *the information* to, a federal, state, or local prison, jail, or juvenile detention facility, and all ~~parties~~ *participants* to the electronic communication were informed, prior to the communication, that the service provider may disclose the information to the government entity.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

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 1546 of the Penal Code is amended to
- 2 read:
- 3 1546. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions
- 4 apply:
- 5 (a) An “adverse result” means any of the following:
- 6 (1) Danger to the life or physical safety of an individual.
- 7 (2) Flight from prosecution.
- 8 (3) Destruction of or tampering with evidence.
- 9 (4) Intimidation of potential witnesses.
- 10 (5) Serious jeopardy to an investigation or undue delay of a
- 11 trial.

1 (b) “Authorized possessor” means the possessor of an electronic
2 device when that person is the owner of the device or has been
3 authorized to possess the device by the owner of the device.

4 (c) “Electronic communication” means the transfer of signs,
5 signals, writings, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature
6 in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectric,
7 or photo-optical system.

8 (d) “Electronic communication information” means any
9 information about an electronic communication or the use of an
10 electronic communication service, including, but not limited to,
11 the contents, sender, recipients, format, or location of the sender
12 or recipients at any point during the communication, the time or
13 date the communication was created, sent, or received, or any
14 information pertaining to any individual or device participating in
15 the communication, including, but not limited to, an IP address.
16 ~~Electronic “Electronic communication information information”~~
17 does not include subscriber information as defined in this chapter.

18 (e) “Electronic communication service” means a service that
19 provides to its subscribers or users the ability to send or receive
20 electronic communications, including any service that acts as an
21 intermediary in the transmission of electronic communications, or
22 stores electronic communication information.

23 (f) “Electronic device” means a device that stores, generates,
24 or transmits information in electronic form. An electronic device
25 does not include the magnetic strip on a driver’s license or an
26 identification card issued by this state or a driver’s license or
27 equivalent identification card issued by another state.

28 (g) “Electronic device information” means any information
29 stored on or generated through the operation of an electronic
30 device, including the current and prior locations of the device.

31 (h) “Electronic information” means electronic communication
32 information or electronic device information.

33 (i) “Government entity” means a department or agency of the
34 state or a political subdivision thereof, or an individual acting for
35 or on behalf of the state or a political subdivision thereof.

36 (j) “Service provider” means a person or entity offering an
37 electronic communication service.

38 (k) “Specific consent” means consent provided directly to the
39 government entity seeking information, including, but not limited
40 to, when the government entity is the addressee or intended

1 recipient or a member of the intended audience of an electronic
2 communication. Specific consent does not require that the
3 originator of the communication have actual knowledge that an
4 addressee, intended recipient, or member of the specific audience
5 is a government entity.

6 (l) “Subscriber information” means the name, street address,
7 telephone number, email address, or similar contact information
8 provided by the subscriber to the *service* provider to establish or
9 maintain an account or communication channel, a subscriber or
10 account number or identifier, the length of service, and the types
11 of services used by a user of or subscriber to a service provider.

12 SEC. 2. Section 1546.1 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

13 1546.1. (a) Except as provided in this section, a government
14 entity shall not do any of the following:

15 (1) Compel the production of or access to electronic
16 communication information from a service provider.

17 (2) Compel the production of or access to electronic device
18 information from any person or entity other than the authorized
19 possessor of the device.

20 (3) Access electronic device information by means of physical
21 interaction or electronic communication with the electronic device.
22 This section does not prohibit the intended recipient of an electronic
23 communication from voluntarily disclosing electronic
24 communication information concerning that communication to a
25 government entity.

26 (b) A government entity may compel the production of or access
27 to electronic communication information from a service provider,
28 or compel the production of or access to electronic device
29 information from any person or entity other than the authorized
30 possessor of the device only under the following circumstances:

31 (1) Pursuant to a warrant issued pursuant to Chapter 3
32 (commencing with Section 1523) and subject to subdivision (d).

33 (2) Pursuant to a wiretap order issued pursuant to Chapter 1.4
34 (commencing with Section 629.50) of Title 15 of Part 1.

35 (3) Pursuant to an order for electronic reader records issued
36 pursuant to Section 1798.90 of the Civil Code.

37 (4) Pursuant to a subpoena issued pursuant to existing state law,
38 provided that the information is not sought for the purpose of
39 investigating or prosecuting a criminal offense, and compelling
40 the production of or access to the information via the subpoena is

1 not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law. Nothing in this
2 paragraph shall be construed to expand any authority under state
3 law to compel the production of or access to electronic information.

4 (c) A government entity may access electronic device
5 information by means of physical interaction or electronic
6 communication with the device only as follows:

7 (1) Pursuant to a warrant issued pursuant to Chapter 3
8 (commencing with Section 1523) and subject to subdivision (d).

9 (2) Pursuant to a wiretap order issued pursuant to Chapter 1.4
10 (commencing with Section 629.50) of Title 15 of Part 1.

11 (3) With the specific consent of the authorized possessor of the
12 device.

13 (4) With the specific consent of the owner of the device, only
14 when the device has been reported as lost or stolen.

15 (5) If the government entity, in good faith, believes that an
16 emergency involving danger of death or serious physical injury to
17 any person requires access to the electronic device information.

18 (6) If the government entity, in good faith, believes the device
19 to be lost, stolen, or abandoned, provided that the government
20 entity shall only access electronic device information in order to
21 attempt to identify, verify, or contact the owner or authorized
22 possessor of the device.

23 (7) Except where prohibited by state or federal law, if the device
24 is seized from an inmate's possession or found in an area of a
25 correctional facility or a secure area of a local detention facility
26 where inmates have access, the device is not in the possession of
27 an individual, and the device is not known or believed to be the
28 possession of an authorized visitor. ~~Nothing in this~~ This paragraph
29 shall *not* be construed to supersede or override Section 4576.

30 (8) *Except where prohibited by state or federal law, if the device*
31 *is seized from an authorized possessor of the device who is serving*
32 *a term of parole under the supervision of the Department of*
33 *Corrections and Rehabilitation.*

34 (9) *Except where prohibited by state or federal law, if the device*
35 *is seized from an authorized possessor of the device who is subject*
36 *to an electronic device search as a clear and unambiguous*
37 *condition of probation, postrelease community supervision,*
38 *mandatory supervision, or pretrial release.*

39 (8)

1 (10) If the government entity accesses information concerning
2 the location or the telephone number of the electronic device in
3 order to respond to an emergency 911 call from that device.

4 (d) Any warrant for electronic information shall comply with
5 the following:

6 (1) The warrant shall describe with particularity the information
7 to be seized by specifying, as appropriate and reasonable, the time
8 periods covered, the target individuals or accounts, the applications
9 or services covered, and the types of information sought, provided,
10 however, that in the case of a warrant described in paragraph (1)
11 of subdivision (c), the court may determine that it is not appropriate
12 to specify time periods because of the specific circumstances of
13 the investigation, including, but not limited to, the nature of the
14 device to be searched.

15 (2) The warrant shall require that any information obtained
16 through the execution of the warrant that is unrelated to the
17 objective of the warrant shall be sealed and shall not be subject to
18 further review, use, or disclosure except pursuant to a court order
19 or to comply with discovery as required by Sections 1054.1 and
20 1054.7. A court shall issue such an order upon a finding that there
21 is probable cause to believe that the information is relevant to an
22 active investigation, or review, use, or disclosure is required by
23 state or federal law.

24 (3) The warrant shall comply with all other provisions of
25 California and federal law, including any provisions prohibiting,
26 limiting, or imposing additional requirements on the use of search
27 warrants. If directed to a service provider, the warrant shall be
28 accompanied by an order requiring the service provider to verify
29 the authenticity of electronic information that it produces by
30 providing an affidavit that complies with the requirements set forth
31 in Section 1561 of the Evidence Code. Admission of that
32 information into evidence shall be subject to Section 1562 of the
33 Evidence Code.

34 (e) When issuing any warrant or order for electronic information,
35 or upon the petition from the target or recipient of the warrant or
36 order, a court may, at its discretion, do either or both of the
37 following:

38 (1) Appoint a special master, as described in subdivision (d) of
39 Section 1524, charged with ensuring that only information

1 necessary to achieve the objective of the warrant or order is
2 produced or accessed.

3 (2) Require that any information obtained through the execution
4 of the warrant or order that is unrelated to the objective of the
5 warrant be destroyed as soon as feasible after the termination of
6 the current investigation and any related investigations or
7 proceedings.

8 (f) A service provider may voluntarily disclose electronic
9 communication information or subscriber information when that
10 disclosure is not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law.

11 (g) If a government entity receives electronic communication
12 information voluntarily provided pursuant to subdivision (f), it
13 shall destroy that information within 90 days unless one or more
14 of the following circumstances apply:

15 (1) The government entity has or obtains the specific consent
16 of the sender or recipient of the electronic communications about
17 which information was disclosed.

18 (2) The government entity obtains a court order authorizing the
19 retention of the information. A court shall issue a retention order
20 upon a finding that the conditions justifying the initial voluntary
21 disclosure persist, in which case the court shall authorize the
22 retention of the information only for so long as those conditions
23 persist, or there is probable cause to believe that the information
24 constitutes evidence that a crime has been committed.

25 (3) The government entity reasonably believes that the
26 information relates to child pornography and the information is
27 retained as part of a multiagency database used in the investigation
28 of child pornography and related crimes.

29 (4) The service provider or subscriber is, or discloses the
30 information to, a federal, state, or local prison, jail, or juvenile
31 detention facility, and all participants to the electronic
32 communication were informed, prior to the communication, that
33 the service provider may disclose the information to the
34 government entity.

35 (h) If a government entity obtains electronic information
36 pursuant to an emergency involving danger of death or serious
37 physical injury to a person, that requires access to the electronic
38 information without delay, the government entity shall, within
39 three court days after obtaining the electronic information, file
40 with the appropriate court an application for a warrant or order

1 authorizing obtaining the electronic information or a motion
2 seeking approval of the emergency disclosures that shall set forth
3 the facts giving rise to the emergency, and if applicable, a request
4 supported by a sworn affidavit for an order delaying notification
5 under paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 1546.2. The court
6 shall promptly rule on the application or motion and shall order
7 the immediate destruction of all information obtained, and
8 immediate notification pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section
9 1546.2 if that notice has not already been given, upon a finding
10 that the facts did not give rise to an emergency or upon rejecting
11 the warrant or order application on any other ground. This
12 subdivision does not apply if the government entity obtains
13 information concerning the location *or the telephone number* of
14 the electronic device in order to respond to an emergency 911 call
15 from that device.

16 (i) This section does not limit the authority of a government
17 entity to use an administrative, grand jury, trial, or civil discovery
18 subpoena to do any of the following:

19 (1) Require an originator, addressee, or intended recipient of
20 an electronic communication to disclose any electronic
21 communication information associated with that communication.

22 (2) Require an entity that provides electronic communications
23 services to its officers, directors, employees, or agents for the
24 purpose of carrying out their duties, to disclose electronic
25 communication information associated with an electronic
26 communication to or from an officer, director, employee, or agent
27 of the entity.

28 (3) Require a service provider to provide subscriber information.

29 (j) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to alter the
30 authority of a government entity that owns an electronic device to
31 compel an employee who is authorized to possess the device to
32 return the device to the government entity's possession.

33 SEC. 3. Section 1546.2 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

34 1546.2. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, any
35 government entity that executes a warrant, or obtains electronic
36 information in an emergency pursuant to Section 1546.1, shall
37 serve upon, or deliver to by registered or first-class mail, electronic
38 mail, or other means reasonably calculated to be effective, the
39 identified targets of the warrant or emergency ~~request~~, *access*, a
40 notice that informs the recipient that information about the recipient

1 has been compelled or ~~requested~~, *obtained*, and states with
2 reasonable specificity the nature of the government investigation
3 under which the information is sought. The notice shall include a
4 copy of the warrant or a written statement setting forth facts giving
5 rise to the emergency. The notice shall be provided
6 contemporaneously with the execution of a warrant, or, in the case
7 of an emergency, within three court days after obtaining the
8 electronic information.

9 (b) (1) When a warrant is sought or electronic information is
10 obtained in an emergency under Section 1546.1, the government
11 entity may submit a request supported by a sworn affidavit for an
12 order delaying notification and prohibiting any party providing
13 information from notifying any other party that information has
14 been sought. The court shall issue the order if the court determines
15 that there is reason to believe that notification may have an adverse
16 result, but only for the period of time that the court finds there is
17 reason to believe that the notification may have that adverse result,
18 and not to exceed 90 days.

19 (2) The court may grant extensions of the delay of up to 90 days
20 each on the same grounds as provided in paragraph (1).

21 (3) Upon expiration of the period of delay of the notification,
22 the government entity shall serve upon, or deliver to by registered
23 or first-class mail, electronic mail, or other means reasonably
24 calculated to be effective as specified by the court issuing the order
25 authorizing delayed notification, the identified targets of the
26 ~~warrant~~, *warrant or emergency access*, a document that includes
27 the information described in subdivision (a), a copy of all electronic
28 information obtained or a summary of that information, including,
29 at a minimum, the number and types of records disclosed, the date
30 and time when the earliest and latest records were created, and a
31 statement of the grounds for the court's determination to grant a
32 delay in notifying the individual.

33 (c) If there is no identified target of a warrant or emergency
34 ~~request access~~ at the time of its issuance, the government entity
35 shall submit to the Department of Justice within three days of the
36 execution of the warrant or issuance of the request all of the
37 information required in subdivision (a). If an order delaying notice
38 is obtained pursuant to subdivision (b), the government entity shall
39 submit to the department upon the expiration of the period of delay
40 of the notification all of the information required in paragraph (3)

1 of subdivision (b). The department shall publish all those reports
2 on its Internet Web site within 90 days of receipt. The department
3 may redact names or other personal identifying information from
4 the reports.

5 (d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, nothing in this
6 chapter shall prohibit or limit a service provider or any other party
7 from disclosing information about any request or demand for
8 electronic information.