

HOUSE BILL NO. 1593

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BLAND MANLOVE.

3315H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 537, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a civil action for summoning a police officer.

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

Section A. Chapter 537, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 537.562, to read as follows:

537.562. 1. A person may bring a civil action for damages against any person who knowingly causes a police officer to arrive at a location to contact another person with the intent to:

(1) Infringe on the other person's rights under the Missouri or United States Constitution;

(2) Unlawfully discriminate against the other person;

(3) Cause the other person to feel harassed, humiliated, or embarrassed;

(4) Cause the other person to be expelled from a place in which the other person is lawfully located; or

(5) Damage the other person's:

(a) Reputation or standing within the community; or

(b) Financial, economic, consumer, or business prospects or interests;

2. Upon prevailing in an action under this section, the plaintiff may recover:

(1) The greater of:

(a) Special and general damages, including damages for emotional distress; or

(b) Statutory damages of two hundred fifty dollars against each defendant found liable under this section; and

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.

18 **(2) Punitive damages.**

19 **3. The court may award reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing plaintiff in an**
20 **action under this section.**

21 **4. A civil action under this section:**

22 **(1) May be brought in small claims court if the total damages do not exceed the**
23 **jurisdictional amount allowed under chapter 482;**

24 **(2) Does not affect a right or remedy available under any other law of this state.**

✓