

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 898

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE COOK.

1802H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 557.035, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to crimes committed against law enforcement officers and first responders, with penalty provisions.

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

Section A. Section 557.035, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 557.035, to read as follows:

557.035. 1. For all violations of section 565.054 or 565.090, subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of section 569.100, or subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (6), (7) or (8) of subsection 1 of section 571.030, which the state believes to be knowingly motivated because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or disability of the victim or victims, **or because of the victim's employment as a law enforcement officer or first responder**, the state may charge the offense or offenses under this section, and the violation is a class D felony.

2. For all violations of section 565.056; subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of section 569.090; subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of section 569.120; section 569.140; or section 574.050; which the state believes to be knowingly motivated because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or disability of the victim or victims, **or because of the victim's employment as a law enforcement officer or first responder**, the state may charge the offense or offenses under this section, and the violation is a class E felony.

3. The court shall assess punishment in all of the cases in which the state pleads and proves any of the motivating factors listed in this section.

4. For purposes of this section, "first responder" means state and local law enforcement personnel, fire department personnel, and emergency medical personnel who may be deployed to terrorist attacks, catastrophic or natural disasters, and emergencies.

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 **"Law enforcement officer" means any public servant having both the power and duty to**
19 **make arrests for violations of the laws of this state and federal law enforcement officers**
20 **authorized to carry firearms and to make arrests for violations of the laws of the United**
21 **States.**

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