

# HOUSE BILL NO. 3257

## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HOVIS.

7154H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 575, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the offense of impeding, threatening, or harassing a first responder, with a penalty provision.

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

Section A. Chapter 575, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 575.356, to read as follows:

**575.356. 1. A person commits the offense of impeding, threatening, or harassing a first responder if such person after receiving an oral warning not to approach from an individual that the person knows or reasonably should know is a first responder and the individual is engaged in the lawful performance of his or her duties as a first responder knowingly and willfully violates such warning and approaches or remains within twenty-five feet of the first responder with the intent to:**

- (1) Impede or interfere with the first responder's ability to perform such duties;**
- (2) Threaten the first responder with physical harm; or**
- (3) Harass the first responder.**

**2. The offense of impeding, threatening, or harassing a first responder is a class D misdemeanor.**

**3. As used in this section, the following terms mean:**

- (1) "Emergency medical care provider", an ambulance driver, emergency medical technician, paramedic, registered nurse, physician, or medical director. The term "emergency medical care provider" also includes a physician, employee, agent, or volunteer of a hospital as defined in section 190.100 who is employed, under contract, or**

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.

17 **otherwise authorized by a hospital to perform duties directly associated with the care**  
18 **and treatment rendered by the hospital's emergency department or the security thereof;**

19 **(2) "First responder", a law enforcement officer as defined in section 556.061, a**  
20 **parole or probation officer, a firefighter as defined in section 87.120, or an emergency**  
21 **medical care provider;**

22 **(3) "Harass", to willfully engage in a course of conduct directed at a first**  
23 **responder that intentionally causes substantial emotional distress in that first responder**  
24 **and serves no legitimate purpose.**

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