

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 1597

3 By: George of the House

4 and

5 Weaver of the Senate

6

7 An Act relating to crimes and punishments; defining  
8 terms; making certain acts unlawful; providing  
9 penalties; providing for codification; and providing  
10 an effective date.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

12 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
13 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 540D of Title 21, unless there  
14 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

15 A. As used in this section:

16 1. "First responder" shall include a peace officer as defined  
17 in Section 99 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, a correctional  
18 or probation and parole officer, and an emergency medical technician  
19 or emergency medical care provider; and

20 2. "Harass" means to willfully engage in a course of conduct  
21 directed at a first responder which intentionally distracts the  
22 first responder from performing his or her official duties and  
23 serves no legitimate purpose.

1       B. It shall be unlawful for a person, after receiving a verbal  
2 warning not to approach from a person he or she knows or reasonably  
3 should know is a first responder, who is engaged in the lawful  
4 performance of a legal duty, to knowingly and willfully violate such  
5 warning and approach or remain within twenty-five (25) feet of the  
6 first responder with the intent to:

- 7           1. Impede or interfere with the ability of the first responder  
8 to perform such duty;
- 9           2. Threaten the first responder with physical harm; or
- 10          3. Harass the first responder.

11       C. Any person who violates the provisions of this section  
12 shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by  
13 imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed one (1)  
14 year, or by a fine not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00),  
15 or by both such fine and imprisonment.

16       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

1           Passed the House of Representatives the 11th day of March, 2025.  
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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

5           Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.  
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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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