

HOUSE BILL NO. 452

INTRODUCED BY G. PARRY

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CRIME OF ASSAULT ON AN EMPLOYEE OF A PUBLIC UTILITY OR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Assault on employee of public utility or electric cooperative. (1) A person commits the offense of assault on an employee of a public utility, as defined in 69-3-101, or electric cooperative, as defined in 35-18-102, if the person purposely or knowingly causes:

(a) bodily injury to an employee of a public utility or electric cooperative;

(b) reasonable apprehension of serious bodily injury in an employee of a public utility or electric cooperative by use of:

(i) a weapon; or

(ii) what reasonably appears to be a weapon;

(c) bodily injury to an employee of a public utility or electric cooperative with a weapon; or

(d) serious bodily injury to an employee of a public utility or electric cooperative.

(2) (a) A person convicted of assault on an employee of a public utility or electric cooperative:

(i) under subsection (1)(a), (1)(b)(i), or (1)(c) shall be imprisoned in the state prison for a term not to exceed 10 years and may be fined an amount not to exceed \$50,000; or

(ii) under subsection (1)(b)(ii) shall be imprisoned in the state prison for a term not to exceed 8 years and may be fined an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

(b) ~~Except as provided in 46-18-222, a~~ A person convicted of assault on an employee of a public utility or electric cooperative under subsection (1)(d) of this section shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$50,000 or be imprisoned in the state prison for a term not to exceed 20 years, or both.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an

**Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Gary Parry - (H) Judiciary**

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Julianne Burkhardt,

HB0452.001.002

1 integral part of Title 45, chapter 5, part 2, and the provisions of Title 45, chapter 5, part 2, apply to [section 1].

2 - END -

AMENDED