

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 POLICY COMMITTEE
4 RECOMMENDATION

5 FOR

6 HOUSE BILL NO. 1597

7 By: George

8 POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

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

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

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

17 A. As used in this section:

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

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

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

9 1. Impede or interfere with the ability of the first responder
10 to perform such duty;

11 2. Threaten the first responder with physical harm; or

12 3. Harass the first responder.

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

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

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20 60-1-12594 GRS 02/11/25

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