

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 1597

By: George of the House

and

Weaver of the Senate

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10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

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

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

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

19 A. As used in this section:

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

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

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

- 11 1. Impede or interfere with the ability of the first responder
12 to perform such duty;
- 13 2. Threaten the first responder with physical harm; or
14 3. Harass the first responder.

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

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

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22 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY
23 OVERSIGHT, dated 02/26/2025 - DO PASS, As Amended.

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