



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB5859

by Rep. John M. Cabello

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

720 ILCS 5/26-8 new

Amends the Criminal Code of 2012. Provides that it is unlawful for a person, after receiving a warning not to approach from a first responder who is engaged in the lawful performance of a legal duty, to violate the warning and approach or remain within 14 feet of the first responder with the intent to: (1) interrupt, disrupt, hinder, impede, or interfere with the first responder's ability to perform the first responder's duty; (2) threaten the first responder with physical harm; or (3) harass the first responder by interfering with the first responder performing the first responder's duty. Provides that a violation is a Class A misdemeanor. Defines "first responder" and "harass".

LRB103 39981 RLC 71202 b

1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Criminal Code of 2012 is amended by adding
5 Section 26-8 as follows:

6 (720 ILCS 5/26-8 new)

7 Sec. 26-8. Approaching a first responder after a warning
8 with intent to impede, threaten, or harass.

9 (a) In this Section:

10 (1) "First responder" includes a peace officer, a
11 firefighter, or an emergency medical technician.

12 (2) "Harass" means to engage in a course of conduct
13 directed at a first responder which causes substantial
14 emotional distress in that first responder.

15 (b) It is unlawful for a person, after receiving a warning
16 not to approach from a first responder who is engaged in the
17 lawful performance of a legal duty, to violate the warning and
18 approach or remain within 14 feet of the first responder with
19 the intent to:

20 (1) interrupt, disrupt, hinder, impede, or interfere
21 with the first responder's ability to perform the first
22 responder's duty;

23 (2) threaten the first responder with physical harm;

1 or

2 (3) harass the first responder by interfering with the
3 first responder performing the first responder's duty.

4 (c) Sentence. A person who violates this Section commits a
5 Class A misdemeanor.