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**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
AMENDMENT MEMO**

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<b>2015 Assembly Bill 341</b>	<b>Assembly Amendment 3</b>
<i>Memo published: March 15, 2016</i>	
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### **2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 341**

2015 Assembly Bill 341 (the bill) creates the crime of terrorist threats. Under the bill, it is a Class I felony<sup>1</sup> for a person to threaten to cause the death of or bodily harm to any person or to damage any person's property under any of the following circumstances:

- The actor intends to prevent the occupation of or cause the evacuation of a building, dwelling, school premises, vehicle, facility of public transportation, or place of public assembly or any room within a building, dwelling, or school premises.
- The actor intends to cause serious public inconvenience.
- The actor intends to cause serious public panic or fear.
- The actor intends to cause an interruption or impairment of governmental operations or public communication, of transportation, or of a supply of water, gas, or other public service.
- The actor creates an unreasonable and substantial risk of causing a result of one of the harms listed in the bullet points above, and is aware of that risk.

Also, a person who violates the prohibition above and contributes to any individual's death is guilty of a Class G felony.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> A Class I felony is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$10,000, imprisonment not to exceed three years and six months, or both. [s. 939.50 (3) (i), Stats.]

<sup>2</sup> A Class G felony is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$25,000, imprisonment not to exceed 10 years, or both. [s. 939.50 (3) (g), Stats.]

### **ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 3**

Assembly Amendment 3 amends two of the circumstances under which a person could be found guilty of making a terrorist threat. Specifically, Assembly Amendment 3 amends the circumstances related to a person's intent to cause a **serious public inconvenience** or **serious public panic or fear**. Under Assembly Amendment 3, the intended public inconvenience or public panic or fear does not need to be **serious** in order for a person to be prohibited from threatening to cause the death of or bodily harm to any person or to damage any person's property. Rather, a person is prohibited from making such a threat if the person intends to cause **public inconvenience** or **public panic or fear**.

### **BILL HISTORY**

On February 16, 2016, Assembly Amendment 3 was introduced by Representatives Kessler and E. Brooks. Also on February 16, 2016, the Assembly voted to adopt Assembly Amendment 3 on a voice vote, and subsequently voted to pass the bill, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 98; Noes, 0.

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