



2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 259

June 3, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives TUSLER, STUCK, ANDERSON, CROWLEY, KULP, MURSAU, L. MYERS, OHNSTAD, RAMTHUN, SARGENT, SINICKI, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, THIESFELDT, VRUWINK and NEUBAUER, cosponsored by Senators JACQUE, CARPENTER, LARSON, RISSER and WANGGAARD. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 940.32 (1) (a) 6. and 940.32 (1) (a) 7. of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** stalking.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, stalking means a course of conduct that includes maintaining visual or physical proximity to the victim, approaching or confronting the victim, appearing at the victim's workplace, home, or other property, contacting the victim's employer, coworkers, neighbors, family, or friends, attempting to contact the victim via telephone, and sending various items or materials to the victim. This bill amends the definition of stalking to explicitly include attempts to contact the victim via text messaging and other electronic means of communication, including sending and posting online content.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 940.32 (1) (a) 6. of the statutes is amended to read:
4 940.32 (1) (a) 6. Contacting the victim by telephone, text message, electronic
5 message, electronic mail, or other means of electronic communication or causing the
6 victim's telephone or electronic device or any other person's telephone or electronic

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1 device to ring or generate notifications repeatedly or continuously, regardless of
2 whether a conversation ensues.

3 **SECTION 2.** 940.32 (1) (a) 7. of the statutes is amended to read:

4 940.32 (1) (a) 7. Sending to the victim any physical or electronic material or
5 contacting the victim by any means ~~to the victim or, for, including any message,~~
6 comment, or other content posted on any Internet site or web application.

7 7m. For the purpose of obtaining information about, disseminating
8 information about, or communicating with the victim, ~~to sending any physical or~~
9 electronic material to or contacting by any means, including any message, comment,
10 or other content posted on any Internet site or web application, a member of the
11 victim's family or household or an employer, coworker, or friend of the victim.

12 (END)