

No. 247, S.]

[Published August 26, 1947.]

CHAPTER 578.

AN ACT to create 348.60 of the statutes, relating to simulating legal process and providing a penalty.

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

348.60 of the statutes is created to read:

348.60 SIMULATING LEGAL PROCESS. (1) CIRCULATION PROHIBITED. No person shall send or deliver or cause to be sent or delivered any letter, paper, document, notice of intent to bring suit or other notice which simulates a summons, complaint, writ or other court process with intent to lead the recipient or sendee to believe the same to be genuine for the purpose of obtaining any money or thing of value whatsoever. The sending or delivery of such document shall be prima facie evidence of such intent and it shall be no defense to show that the document bears any statement to the contrary. It shall be no defense to show that the money or thing of value sought to be obtained was to apply as payment on a valid obligation.

(2) EVIDENCE OF DELIVERY. In prosecutions for violation of this section the prosecution may show that the simulating document was deposited in the post office for mailing or was delivered to any person with intent to be forwarded, and such showing shall be sufficient proof of the sending or delivery.

(3) VENUE. Any person violating this section may be tried therefor in the county where such simulated document was so deposited or the county where the same was received.

(4) EXCEPTION. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the printing, publication or distribution of blank forms of genuine summons and other court process.

(5) PENALTY. Any person violating any provision of this section shall be fined, for the first offense, not less than \$10 nor more than \$100, and for the second and subsequent offense not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 or imprisoned not more than 6 months or both.

Approved August 18, 1947.