

No. 950, A.]

[Published September 24, 1959.

CHAPTER 469

AN ACT to create 941.34 of the statutes, relating to telephone calls on party lines during emergencies, and providing penalties.

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

941.34 of the statutes is created to read:

941.34 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE CALLS. (1) DEFINITIONS.
As used in this section:

(a) "Party line" means a subscriber's line telephone circuit, consisting of 2 or more main telephone stations connected therewith, each station with a distinctive ring or telephone number.

(b) "Emergency" means a situation in which property or human life are in jeopardy and the prompt summoning of aid is essential.

(2) Whoever intentionally refuses to yield or surrender the use of a party line to another person for the purpose of permitting such other person to report a fire or summon police, medical or other aid in case of emergency, shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$500.

(3) Whoever intentionally asks for or requests the use of a party line on the pretext that an emergency exists, knowing that no emergency in fact exists, shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$500.

(4) Every telephone directory printed and distributed to the members of the general public after the effective date of this section (1959) shall contain a notice to be prominently printed and displayed in bold-faced type, stating in substance the conduct prohibited by this statute, and to be preceded by the word "Warning". This subsection shall not apply to those directories distributed solely for business advertising purposes, commonly known as classified directories.

Approved September 15, 1959.
