2007 SENATE BILL 261

September 11, 2007 – Introduced by Senators Plale, Carpenter, A. Lasee, Leibham, Darling, Schultz and Lassa, cosponsored by Representatives Staskunas, Zepnick, Sinicki, Lothian, Hahn, Vos, Musser, Sheridan and Ziegelbauer. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Corrections.

- 1 AN ACT *to amend* 943.017 (2) (d) of the statutes; **relating to:** graffiti and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person who intentionally marks, draws, or writes on or etches onto another person's property without the person's consent is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined not more than \$10,000 or sentenced to the county jail for up to nine months or both. If, however, the property is reduced in value by more than \$2,500, the person is guilty of a felony and may be fined up to \$10,000 or sentenced to a term of imprisonment of up to three and one—half years, which if the sentence is for more than one year consists of a term of confinement in state prison followed by a term of extended supervision, or both. This bill lowers the damage threshold for the felony version of the offense to \$1,000.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report concerning the proposed penalty and the costs or savings that are likely to result if the bill is enacted.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

SENATE BILL 261

1

2

3

4

5

6

SECTION 1. 943.017 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:
943.017 (2) (d) If the total property affected in violation of sub. (1) is reduced
in value by more than $\$2,500 \ \$1,000$. For the purposes of this paragraph, property
is reduced in value by the amount which it would cost to repair or replace it or to
remove the marking, drawing, writing or etching, whichever is less.
(END)