



2015 SENATE BILL 256

September 11, 2015 – Introduced by Senators MARKLEIN and NASS, cosponsored by Representatives E. BROOKS, A. OTT, MURTHA, GANNON, NOVAK, TRANEL, HORLACHER, PETRYK, SPIROS, MURPHY and KLEEFISCH. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to create* 947.019 of the statutes; **relating to:** making a terrorist threat
2 and providing a criminal penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill makes it a crime to make a terrorist threat.

Under current law, no person may intentionally convey false information threatening to destroy property by means of an explosive or threatening to release a chemical, biological, or radioactive substance. A person who does either of these is guilty of a Class I felony.

Under this bill, no person may threaten to cause the death of or bodily injury to any person or threaten to damage any person's property by any means under any of the following circumstances: 1) 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; 2) the actor intends to cause serious public inconvenience; 3) the actor intends to cause serious public panic or fear; 4) 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; or 5) the actor creates an unreasonable and substantial risk of causing one of these occurrences and is aware of that risk.

Under the bill, a person who violates this prohibition is guilty of a Class I felony, unless the person thereby contributes to the death of any person. In that case, the person is guilty of a Class G felony.

