2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 409

June 25, 2021 – Introduced by Representatives SORTWELL, ARMSTRONG, BEHNKE, BRANDTJEN, DITTRICH, EDMING, MOSES, MURPHY, ROZAR, SCHRAA, SPIROS and TUSLER, cosponsored by Senators FEYEN and MARKLEIN. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

AN ACT to renumber and amend 940.20 (4); to amend 940.20 (4) (title); and to create 940.20 (4) (a) of the statutes; relating to: battery or threat to a public officer and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, it is a Class I felony to cause bodily harm to a public officer in order to influence the action of the public officer or as a result of any official action taken by the public officer. This bill adds that it is also a Class I felony to threaten to cause bodily harm to the public officer or to cause or threaten to cause bodily harm to a family member of the public officer.

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.

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

SECTION 1. 940.20 (4) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

940.20 (4) (title) BATTERY OR THREAT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS.

SECTION 2. 940.20 (4) of the statutes is renumbered 940.20 (4) (b) and amended to read:
940.20 (4) (b) Whoever intentionally causes or threatens to cause bodily harm to a public officer or a public officer’s family member in order to influence the action of such public officer or as a result of any action taken by the public officer within an official capacity, without the consent of the person threatened or injured, is guilty of a Class I felony.

SECTION 3. 940.20 (4) (a) of the statutes is created to read:

940.20 (4) (a) In this subsection, “family member” means a parent, spouse, sibling, child, stepchild, foster child, niece, nephew, or grandchild.

(END)