

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 19

By: Roberts of the Senate

and

Settle, Breckinridge, Cox
and Caldwell of the House

An Act relating to intimidation of a witness;
amending 21 O.S. 1991, Section 455, which
relates to intimidation of a witness; making
intimidation of any witness before giving
testimony a crime; modifying language; making
intimidation of a witness after giving testimony
a crime; setting penalty; and declaring an
emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 1991, Section 455, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 455. A. Every person who willfully prevents any person from giving testimony who has been duly summoned or subpoenaed or endorsed on the criminal information or juvenile petition as a witness, or who makes a report of abuse or neglect pursuant to Sections 846 and 846.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes or Section 10-104 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes, or who is a witness to any reported crime, or threatens or procures physical or mental harm through force or fear with the intent to prevent the any witness from appearing in court to give his testimony, or to alter his testimony, is, upon conviction, guilty of a felony punishable by not less than one (1) year nor more than ten (10) years in ~~prison~~ the State Penitentiary.

B. Every person who threatens physical harm through force or fear or causes or procures physical harm to be done to any person or harasses any person or causes a person to be harassed because of testimony given by such person in any civil or criminal trial or proceeding, or who makes a report of abuse or neglect pursuant to Sections 846 and 846.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes or Section 10-104 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes, is, upon conviction, guilty of a felony punishable by not less than one (1) year nor more than ten (10) years in the State Penitentiary.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 11th day of May, 1993.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 5th day of April, 1993.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives