

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2603

By: Fallin

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to crimes and punishments; amending Section 1, Chapter 107, O.S.L. 1992, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 64, O.S.L. 1993 (21 O.S. Supp. 1993, Section 1173), which relates to the crime of stalking; clarifying language; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 107, O.S.L. 1992, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 64, O.S.L. 1993 (21 O.S. Supp. 1993, Section 1173), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1173. A. Any person who willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly follows or harasses another person in a manner that:

1. Would cause a reasonable person or a member of the immediate family of that person as defined in subsection F of this section to feel frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested; and

2. Actually causes the person being followed or harassed to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested,

upon conviction, shall be guilty of the crime of stalking, which is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for not

more than one (1) year or by a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by both such fine and imprisonment.

B. Any person who violates the provisions of subsection A of this section when:

1. There is a temporary restraining order, a protective order or emergency ex parte order, or an injunction in effect prohibiting the behavior described in subsection A of this section against the same party, when the person violating the provisions of subsection A of this section has actual notice of the issuance of such order or injunction; or

2. Said person is on probation or parole, a condition of which prohibits the behavior described in subsection A of this section against the same party; or

3. Said person, within ten (10) years preceding the violation of subsection A of this section, completed the execution of sentence or conviction of a crime involving the use or threat of violence against the same party, or against a member of the immediate family of such party, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary for a term not exceeding five (5) years or by a fine of not more than Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00), or by both such fine and imprisonment.

C. Any person who commits a second act of stalking within ten (10) years ~~of~~ after the completion of sentence for a prior conviction under subsection A of this section, upon conviction thereof, shall be guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary for a term not exceeding five (5) years, or by a fine of not more than Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00), or by both such fine and imprisonment.

D. Any person who commits an act of stalking within ten (10) years ~~of~~ after the completion of execution of sentence for a prior conviction under subsections B and C of this section, shall, upon

conviction thereof, be guilty of a felony, punishable by a fine of not less than Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) nor more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), or by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary for a term not exceeding ten (10) years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

E. Evidence that the defendant continued to engage in a course of conduct involving repeated unconsented contact with the victim after having been requested by the victim to discontinue the same or a different form of unconsented contact, and to refrain from any further unconsented contact with the victim, shall give rise to a rebuttable presumption that the continuation of the course of conduct caused the victim to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested.

F. For purposes of this section:

1. "Harasses" means conduct directed toward a person that includes, but is not limited to, repeated or continuing unconsented contact, that would cause a reasonable person to suffer emotional distress, and that actually causes emotional distress to the victim. Harassment does not include constitutionally protected activity or conduct that serves a legitimate purpose;

2. "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of two (2) or more separate acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose. Constitutionally protected activity is not included within the meaning of "course of conduct";

3. "Emotional distress" means significant mental suffering or distress that may, but does not necessarily require, medical or other professional treatment or counseling;

4. "Unconsented contact" means any contact with another individual that is initiated or continued without the consent of the individual, or in disregard of that individual's expressed desire that the contact be avoided or discontinued. Constitutionally

protected activity is not included within the meaning of unconsented contact. Unconsented contact includes but is not limited to any of the following:

- a. following or appearing within the sight of that individual,
- b. approaching or confronting that individual in a public place or on private property,
- c. appearing at the workplace or residence of that individual,
- d. entering onto or remaining on property owned, leased, or occupied by that individual,
- e. contacting that individual by telephone,
- f. sending mail or electronic communications to that individual, and
- g. placing an object on, or delivering an object to, property owned, leased, or occupied by that individual; and

5. "Member of the immediate family" means any spouse, parent, child, person related within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity or any other person who regularly resides in the household or who regularly resided in the household within the prior six (6) months.

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.

44-2-8071

SD