

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

SENATE BILL 1437

By: Stanley

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to assault and battery; amending 21 O.S. 2021, Section 650.7, which relates to school employees; creating felony offense; updating statutory reference; modifying certain penalties; modifying elements of certain notice; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 650.7, is amended to read as follows:

Section 650.7. A. As used in this section, "school employee" means a teacher, principal, or any duly appointed person employed by a school system or employees of a firm contracting with a school system for any purpose, including any personnel not directly related to the teaching process and school board members during school board meetings.

B. Any person who, without justifiable or excusable cause, commits any assault, ~~battery, or assault and battery~~ upon the person of a school employee while such employee is in the performance of any duties as a school employee or upon any student while such

1 student is participating in any school activity or attending classes  
2 on school property during school hours shall, upon conviction, be  
3 guilty of a misdemeanor. The convicted person shall be punished by  
4 a term of imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding  
5 one (1) year, or by a fine not exceeding Two Thousand Dollars  
6 (\$2,000.00), or by both such fine and imprisonment.

7 C. Any person who, without justifiable or excusable cause,  
8 commits any battery upon the person of a school employee while such  
9 employee is in the performance of any duties as a school employee  
10 shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a felony. The convicted person  
11 shall be punished by a term of imprisonment in the custody of the  
12 Department of Corrections for a period not exceeding two (2) years,  
13 or by a fine not exceeding Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00), or by  
14 both such fine and imprisonment.

15 D. Any person who, without justifiable or excusable cause,  
16 commits any aggravated battery or aggravated assault and battery  
17 upon the person of a school employee while such employee is in the  
18 performance of any duties as a school employee shall, upon  
19 conviction, be guilty of a felony punishable by a term of  
20 imprisonment in the ~~State Penitentiary~~ custody of the Department of  
21 Corrections for a period not exceeding ~~two (2)~~ four (4) years, or by  
22 a fine not exceeding Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or by both  
23 such fine and imprisonment.

1       ~~D.~~ E. Every school site shall post in a prominent place a  
2 notice having the following or similar language: "FELONY CHARGES  
3 MAY BE FILED AGAINST ANY PERSON(S) COMMITTING BATTERY OR AN  
4 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT OR BATTERY UPON ANY SCHOOL EMPLOYEE."

5       ~~E.~~ F. For purposes of this section, "assault" shall be defined  
6 by Section 641 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, "battery" shall  
7 be defined by Section 642 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and  
8 "aggravated assault and battery" shall be defined by Section 646 of  
9 Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

10       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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