ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Fifty-fifth Legislature First Regular Session

House: JUD DP 7-3-0-0 | 3rd Read 45-15-0-0

HB 2568: electronic communications; social media post.

Sponsor: Representative Hoffman, LD 12

House Engrossed

Overview

Adds a social media post to the definition of *electronic communication*.

<u>History</u>

Under current law, it is unlawful for any person who intends to terrify, intimidate, threaten or harass, to use electronic communication to use obscene/lewd language, or threaten physical harm to any person. Individuals who use electronic communication in this manner are subjected to a class 1 misdemeanor. Statute exempts constitutionally protected speech or activity authorized by law. (A.R.S. § 13-2916).

Electronic communication is defined as a wireline, cable, wireless or cellular telephone call, a text message, an instant message or electronic mail (A.R.S. § 13-2916).

Harassment is defined as conduct directed at a specific person and that would cause a reasonable person to be seriously alarmed, annoyed or harassed (A.R.S. § 13-2921).

Provisions

- 1. Includes a social media post in the definition of electronic communication. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Requires an individually to act knowingly, rather than with intent, to be in violation of this section. (Sec. 1)
- 3. Defines social media post. (Sec. 1)
- 4. Makes technical changes. (Sec. 1)

| ☐ Prop 105 (45 votes) | ☐ Prop 108 (40 votes) | ☐ Emergency (40 votes) | ☐ Fiscal Note |
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