

House Bill 590

By: Representatives Cameron of the 1st, Crowe of the 118th, Kelley of the 16th, and Bonner of the 73rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to crimes and
2 offenses, so as to provide for the offense of online menacing of a peace officer; to provide
3 for definitions; to provide for penalties; to provide for related matters; to provide for an
4 effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to crimes and offenses, is
8 amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

9 "16-10-97.1.

10 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

11 (1) 'Immediate family member' means a spouse, child, sibling, or parent or the spouse
12 of a child, sibling, or parent.

13 (2) 'Peace officer' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code Section 35-8-2.

14 (3) 'Personal information' means:

15 (A) The name or former name, home address, employment address, vehicle license
16 plate, home or personal mobile number, personal email address, or social security
17 number of an individual or an immediate family member of such individual; or

18 (B) A photograph of such individual or an immediate family member of such
19 individual.

20 (b) A person commits the offense of online menacing of a peace officer when such person
21 intentionally posts, publishes, or makes publicly available in any online setting any
22 personal information about a peace officer or a peace officer's immediate family member
23 coupled with any threat or suggestion of or request for physical injury, serious physical
24 injury, or violence of any kind against such peace officer or such peace officer's immediate
25 family member.

26 (c) A person convicted of subsection (b) shall be guilty of a felony, and, upon conviction
27 thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than ten years,
28 a fine not to exceed \$25,000.00, or both. At the time of sentencing, the judge is authorized
29 to issue a permanent restraining order against the offender to protect the peace officer and
30 any immediate family members of such peace officer."

31 **SECTION 2.**

32 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
33 without such approval, and shall apply to all offenses committed on or after such date.

34 **SECTION 3.**

35 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.