LRB-1672/1 PJH:jld

## 2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 341

September 14, 2015 – Introduced by Representatives E. Brooks, A. Ott, Murtha, Gannon, Novak, Tranel, Horlacher, Petryk, Spiros, Murphy and Kleefisch, cosponsored by Senators Marklein and Nass. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

\*\*\*AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

- 1 AN ACT to create 947.019 of the statutes; relating to: making a terrorist threat
- 2 and providing a penalty.

## Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, no person may intentionally convey false information threatening to destroy property by means of an explosive or threatening to release a chemical, biological, or radioactive substance. A person who does either of these things is guilty of a Class I felony.

Under this bill, no person may threaten to cause the death of or bodily injury to any person or to damage any person's property by any means under any of the following circumstances: 1) the actor intends to prevent the occupation of or cause the evacuation of a building, dwelling, school premises, vehicle (which is defined to include any bus, train, boat, or airplane), facility of public transportation, or place of public assembly or any room within a building, dwelling, or school premises; 2) the actor intends to cause serious public inconvenience; 3) the actor intends to cause serious public panic or fear; 4) the actor intends to cause an interruption or impairment of governmental operations or public communication, of transportation, or of a supply of water, gas, or other public service; or 5) the actor creates an unreasonable and substantial risk of causing one of those occurrences and is aware of that risk.

Under the bill, a person who violates this prohibition is guilty of a Class I felony, unless the person thereby contributes to the death of any person. In that case, the person is guilty of a Class G felony.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a

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report concerning the proposed penalty and the costs or savings that are likely to result if the bill is enacted.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

## The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

**SECTION 1.** 947.019 of the statutes is created to read:

**947.019 Terrorist threats.** (1) Whoever, under any of the following circumstances, threatens to cause the death of or bodily harm to any person or to damage any person's property is guilty of a Class I felony:

- (a) The actor intends to prevent the occupation of or cause the evacuation of a building, dwelling, school premises, vehicle, facility of public transportation, or place of public assembly or any room within a building, dwelling, or school premises.
  - (b) The actor intends to cause serious public inconvenience.
  - (c) The actor intends to cause serious public panic or fear.
- (d) The actor intends to cause an interruption or impairment of governmental operations or public communication, of transportation, or of a supply of water, gas, or other public service.
- (e) The actor creates an unreasonable and substantial risk of causing a result described in par. (a), (b), (c), or (d) and is aware of that risk.
- (2) Any person who violates sub. (1) and thereby contributes to any individual's death is guilty of a class G felony.

17 (END)