**2015 HOUSE JUDICIARY** 

**HB 1307** 

# 2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

# **House Judiciary Committee**

Prairie Room, State Capitol

HB 1307

1/28/2015 22739 □ Subcommittee

☐ Conference Committee

		/	
Committee Clerk Signature	De Long	Mom	k
	4 1 4 61 111		
Explanation or reason for in	troduction of bill/re	esolution:	
Relating to threatening of publ	ic servants		
reducing to threatering or pas.	io doi varito.		
Minutes:		Testimony #1,	

Vice Chairman Karls: Opened the hearing with testimony in support.

**Rep. K. Koppelman**: Introduced the bill. It would initiate as a criminal offense if a person attempts to file or conspires to file in any public or private record any false lien or encumbrance against real or personal property of a public servant if that person knows or has reason to know that a lien or encumbrance is false or contains any materially false or fraudulent statement. I think this is just an anti- harassment bill.

**Rep. G. Paur**: On line 22, page 1 it says any public and private that is generally available to the public. Public and public is redundant and private wouldn't be public?

Chairman K.Koppelman: I am not sure why it is that way so may have to check into this.

**Rep. L. Klemin**: We had this come up in the past. I think it might be duplication of what we already have.

Chairman K.Koppelman: I did not.

Chief Reitan: Chief of Police of the West Fargo Police Department: (Testimony #1) (4:26-6:16) To answer Rep. L. Klemin's question about do we already have a statue that covers this type of behavior? On an opinion from the Attorney General's office indicated that there are four or five statues that sort of cover this type of action. This language is directed at a very specific conduct and is not otherwise covered in the statue. I thought it was important to be sure all is protected.

Rep. K. Wallman: The change says if the person

House Judiciary Committee HB 1307 January 28, 2015 Page 2

Chief Reitan: I did not write this bill. It was drafted by Legislative Counsel and they felt it was important that all be protected.

**Chairman K. Koppelman**: I have asked the intern to check with Legislative Counsel and probably can confer with the Attorney General's office just to get us some background so we know where else this is in law etc.

**Rep. K. Wallman**: This change says if a person knows or has reason to know the lien or encumbrance is false. That is a little like asking a bully if they are bullying someone. How would you find out if they knew or had reason to know what they were filing were false?

**Chief Reitan**: That would be a preponderance of the evidence. It was drafted by Legislative Counsel. We look at the information we have and then the court makes that determination as to whether they knowingly did this.

Opposition: None

Neutral: None

**Rep. Lois Delmore**: Can you tell me where public servant is defined?

**Chief Reitan**: That language was clipped and pasted from the century code so that is the exact language that appears there.

Hearing closed.

## 2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

# House Judiciary Committee

Prairie Room, State Capitol

HB 1307 1/28/2015

22751 ☐ Subcommittee

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature	Dunh
Minutes:	Handout #1

**Chairman K.Koppelman**: Discussed HB 1307. (Handout #1) I asked our intern to do some research on that and she with the Attorney General's office and essentially I have an overview here of several different statues that could touch on this. None of them really do as I look through them. I think the bill does address an area that might be open.

Rep. L. Klemin: The one I was thinking of was this filing of a financial statement. I would like to point out that this bill says if you do this or attempt to do it; it is a Class C felony; which 5 years in prison for walking in and attempting to record something in the recorder's office who didn't let you do it so you walked out now you are possibly looking at five years in prison. 4I-10.02 says it is a Class A misdemeanor unless it is a second offense or more then it is a Class C felony. I am thinking the penalties should be consistent. Secondly Rep. Paur pointed out the redundant language on line 22.

Rep. L. Klemin: What I would move to do is change this section 4 so the penalty is the same as for filing a false financing statement. I would take out the attempts to file or conspires to file. I don't think we need to talk about personal property here because that is taken care of by the financing statement. So really we are only talking about mortgages or something on real property. I think this needs a little more work than I can do now.

Chairman K. Koppelman: Would you rather we hold this and you prepare an amendment?

Rep. L. Klemin: Yes

# 2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

# **House Judiciary Committee**

Prairie Room, State Capitol

HB 1307 2/3/2015 23146

□ Subcommittee
□ Conference Committee
Committee Clerk Signature
Minutes: Proposed amendment #1

Chairman K. Koppelman: Opened the meeting on HB 1307.

Rep. L. Klemin: (See proposed amendment#1) went over the amendment changes. There are a lot of housekeeping things that took place here. The real meat of this amendment is on page 1 line 18 under a and b. We currently have existing law for filing finance statements under the Uniform Commercial Code in order put an encumbrance against a lien holder to put it against a person's property. What we did here took that same language that is already in Title 41. We used the same kind of offense that currently exists under the law. First time it is a Class A misdemeanor unless they previous plead guilty and had been convicted on two or more occasions; in which case it is a Class C felony.

Rep. L. Klemin Made a Motion to Move the amendment; Seconded by Rep. G. Paur

Discussion: None

Voice vote carried.

Do Pass As Amended Motion Made by Rep. K. Hawken: Seconded by Rep. Lois Delmore:

Discussion:

**Rep. G. Paur**: What we are trying to cover here was already covered in statue and if you did file a false lien or encumbrance that is was prosecutable?

**Rep. L. Klemin**: It is in existence now for filing false financing statements under the Uniform Commercial Code only. We have taken the same principle and language and applied it to others relating to other types of things that are covered by this relating to public servants. Under the Uniform Commercial Code that is not limited to public servants. That

House Judiciary Committee HB 1307 February 3, 2015 Page 2

could be somebody who filed against anyone to create a false lien and then you have to go through the trouble of trying to get it released and all that stuff.

Roll Call Vote: 12 Yes 0 No 1 Absent Carrier: Rep. L. Klemin:



# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1307

- Page 1, line 2, after "servants" insert "; and to provide a penalty"
- Page 1, line 7, overstrike "he" and insert immediately thereafter "that person"
- Page 1, line 7, overstrike "another" and insert immediately thereafter "a public servant"
- Page 1, line 8, overstrike "his" and insert immediately thereafter "the public servant's"
- Page 1, line 9, overstrike the first "him" and insert immediately thereafter "the public servant"
- Page 1, line 9, overstrike the second "him" and insert immediately thereafter "the public servant"
- Page 1, line 9, overstrike "his" and insert immediately thereafter "the public servant's"
- Page 1, line 12, overstrike "he" and insert immediately thereafter "the person"
- Page 1, line 16, overstrike "person" and insert immediately thereafter "individual"
- Page 1, line 18, after "3." insert:
  - "a. A person is guilty of an offense if the person files any lien or encumbrance against real or personal property of a public servant if that person knows or has reason to know the lien or encumbrance is false or contains any materially false or fraudulent statement or representation.
  - b. An offense under this subsection is a class A misdemeanor, unless the person previously pled guilty or had been convicted under this subsection on two or more occasions, in which event the offense is a class C felony.

4."

- Page 1, line 18, overstrike "no" and insert immediately thereafter "not a"
- Page 1, line 18, overstrike "a person" and insert immediately thereafter "an individual"
- Page 1, line 19, overstrike "he" and insert immediately thereafter "the individual"
- Page 1, remove lines 21 through 23
- Page 2, remove lines 1 and 2
- Renumber accordingly

Date: 2/3/2015 Roll Call Vote #:1

# 2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES BILL NO. HB 1307

House JUDICI	ARY				Comi	mittee
□ Subcommittee □ Conference Committee						
Amendment LC# or	r Description:15.07	733.010	01			
Recommendation: Other Actions:	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	ment Do <b>N</b> ot	t Pass	<ul><li>☐ Without Committee Re</li><li>☐ Rerefer to Appropriatio</li><li>☐</li></ul>	ns	lation
	Rep. L. Klemin:			econded By Rep. Paur	Vas	
	sentative	Yes	No	Representative	Yes	No
Chairman K. Ko				Rep. Pamela Anderson	-	
Vice Chairman k	\aris			Rep. Delmore		
Rep. Brabandt				Rep. K. Wallman		
Rep. Hawken Rep. Mary Johns	son				+	
Rep. Klemin	5011				+	
Rep. Kretschma	r					
Rep. D. Larson						
Rep. Maragos					il i	
Rep. Paur					110	
					_	
			No	)	3	
Absent						
Floor Assignment	i:					

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Voice vote carried.

Date: 2/3/2015 Roll Call Vote #:2

# 2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES BILL NO. HB 1307

House JUDICI	ARY				Com	mittee
☐ Subcommittee ☐ Conference Committee						
Amendment LC# o	r Description:15.07	733.010	01			
Recommendation: Other Actions:	<ul><li>☐ Adopt Amendr</li><li>☒ Do Pass</li><li>☒ As Amended</li><li>☐ Reconsider</li></ul>		t Pass	<ul><li>☐ Without Committee Re</li><li>☐ Rerefer to Appropriatio</li></ul>		dation
Motion Made By	Rep. K. Hewken		Se	econded By Rep. Lois Del	more:	
	sentative	Yes	No	Representative	Yes	No
Chairman K. Ko		Х		Rep. Pamela Anderson	X	
Vice Chairman I	Karls	Х		Rep. Delmore	X	
Rep. Brabandt		Х		Rep. K. Wallman	X	
Rep. Hawken		Х				
Rep. Mary John	son	Х				
Rep. Klemin		Х				
Rep. Kretschma	r	Х				
Rep. D. Larson		Х				
Rep. Maragos						
Rep. Paur		X				
Total (Yes)	12		N	o <u>(C</u>		
Absent 1						
	t: Rep. L.KI					
If the vote is on a	n amendment, brief	ly indica	ate inte	nt:		

Module ID: h\_stcomrep\_22\_001
Carrier: Klemin

Insert LC: 15.0733.01001 Title: 02000

# REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

- HB 1307: Judiciary Committee (Rep. K. Koppelman, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends DO PASS (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1307 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.
- Page 1, line 2, after "servants" insert "; and to provide a penalty"
- Page 1, line 7, overstrike "he" and insert immediately thereafter "that person"
- Page 1, line 7, overstrike "another" and insert immediately thereafter "a public servant"
- Page 1, line 8, overstrike "his" and insert immediately thereafter "the public servant's"
- Page 1, line 9, overstrike the first "him" and insert immediately thereafter "the public servant"
- Page 1, line 9, overstrike the second "him" and insert immediately thereafter "the public servant"
- Page 1, line 9, overstrike "his" and insert immediately thereafter "the public servant's"
- Page 1, line 12, overstrike "he" and insert immediately thereafter "the person"
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  - b. An offense under this subsection is a class A misdemeanor, unless the person previously pled guilty or had been convicted under this subsection on two or more occasions, in which event the offense is a class C felony.

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- Page 1, line 19, overstrike "he" and insert immediately thereafter "the individual"
- Page 1, remove lines 21 through 23
- Page 2, remove lines 1 and 2

Renumber accordingly

**2015 SENATE JUDICIARY** 

HB 1307

# 2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

# Judiciary Committee

Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

HB 1307 3/17/2015 24996

☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature	emose	
Minutes:	1	

Ch. Hogue: We will open the hearing on HB 1307.

Chief Mike Reitan, Chief of Police, West Fargo Police Dept.: Support (see attached #1).

Sen. Nelson: Are legislators covered.

Mike Reitan: It is my understanding that anybody in elected or appointed public position would be covered under this statute.

Ch. Hogue: Are you aware of any instances where somebody has recorded a bogus mortgage against a public servant or bogus lien.

Mike Reitan: I am not personally aware of such a filing; however, there is a family that lives in the Fargo area that has been very intimidating and threatening of this type of behavior towards law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges in the Fargo area.

Ch. Hogue: What types of threat have they been making? Are they threats to put bogus mortgage against their property.

Mike Reitan: To seize property and to affect arrest of those officials.

Sen. Grabinger: On page 2, lines 1-3, I question, it says if you are convicted on two or more occasions of this, it rises to the level of a Class C felony. I'm having trouble putting a felony conviction on somebody because of that.

Senate Judiciary Committee HB 1307 3/17/2015 Page 2

Mike Reitan: That was an amendment that came out of the House. The language below in red is what I had copied from the federal statute and it started as a C felony. I believe that the intent is if the person is going to continue to display the behavior that there would be a graduated offense and therefore two A misdemeanors and the third being the felony.

Ch. Hogue: Thank you. Further testimony in support. Testimony in opposition. Neutral testimony.

Rep. K. Koppelman: Sponsor, support. Explained the point of the bill.

Ch. Hogue: I have heard of this happening in other states, particularly with some federal judges. Are you aware of any instances in North Dakota where public officials are being harassed or otherwise threatened by bogus filings?

Rep. K. Koppelman: I'm not; however, I think Chief Reitan approached about sponsoring this bill, it made sense to me because I think those of us in public service and those in the judiciary and other realms of public service where people are out there in the public eye; sometimes decisions are made that are unpopular or we can also be the brunt of people's frustration even if we're not to blame for it. I think it makes sense to have some protections. In a state like ND, a lot of the folks who are public servants, especially people in our local level and the folks in the legislature, nobody does this for the money. It's not a full-time job, we are citizen legislators. The judges and people in the state are committed to their duties I think are worthy of our respect and protection. I think if someone does this kind of thing frivolously, there should be some kind of law dealing with that. I think this provision does it. I'm not aware of any specific instances. I think it could be said that this bill is proactive.

Ch. Hogue: Thank you. Further testimony on HB 1307. Let's take a look at HB 1307.

Sen. Armstrong: I move a Do Pass. Sen. Casper: Second the motion.

6 YES 0 NO 0 ABSENT DO PASS CARRIER: Sen. Luick

Date:	3/17/15	
Roll Ca	all Vote #:	

# 2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTE

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1307

Senate	JUDICIARY . Committee					
☐ Subcon	nmittee					
Amendment LC# or	Description:					
Recommendation:	☐ Adopt Amend	ment				
	Do Pass D	Do No	t Pass	☐ Without Committee Rec	ommen	dation
	☐ As Amended			☐ Rerefer to Appropriation	าร	
	☐ Place on Con	sent Cal	endar			
Other Actions:	☐ Reconsider			o		
	×					
Motion Made By	Sen arms	trong	<u>/</u> Se	conded By Len Ca	spe	ev_
Sen	ators .	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Hogue		~		Sen. Grabinger	L	
Sen. Armstrong		~		Sen. C. Nelson	V	
Sen. Casper		~				
Sen. Luick		-			_	
Total (Yes)	6		_ No _	Ø		
Absent			Ψ			
Floor Assignment	S	ln.	Lus	ik		

# REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Module ID: s\_stcomrep\_48\_030

Carrier: Luick

HB 1307, as engrossed: Judiciary Committee (Sen. Hogue, Chairman) recommends DO PASS (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1307 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

**2015 TESTIMONY** 

HB 1307

14B 1307 1-28-15 Pg)

House Bill 1307
Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly
Testimony of Mike Reitan, Chief of Police, West Fargo Police Department

Good morning Chairman Koppelman, Vice Chair Karls and members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Mike Reitan and I am the Chief of Police of the West Fargo Police Department. I ask your support of House Bill 1307.

As a public servant we are forced at times to make difficult decisions or complete official actions which may prove to be unpopular with one or more people. Often times such disagreement ends with the complaining party providing a simple rebut of our efforts. The message may be rude and at times could even take on a personal tone. More serious are those cases during which the complaining party will threaten physical harm to a person or a person's property. Such threats may lead to a criminal investigation and the potential of charges being filed.

Another tact taken by some is to file false liens or other encumbrance upon your personal or real property for the purpose of harassing or intimidating you in your professional conduct. The filings may impact your ability to conduct your personal business and may have a detrimental effect on your personal records such as a credit history. HB1307 has been drafted based on a similar statute which affords Federal judges, court officials and law enforcement officers protection from this harassing and intimidating behavior. A public servant should never have to be concerned their official actions will lead to an attack upon their personal matters.

For reference, NDCC 12.1-01-04(27) defines "Public servant" as used in this title and in any statute outside this title which defines an offense means any officer or employee of government, including law enforcement officers, whether elected or appointed, and any person participating in the performance of a governmental function, but the term does not include witnesses.

I thank you for your time and ask for your fair consideration in support of HB 1307. I stand before you to respond to any questions you may have.

Michael D Reitan Chief of Police, West Fargo

1007 HB 1307 1-28-15 PJ 1-8

§ 12.1-12-06. Threatening public servants, ND ST 12.1-12-06

West's North Dakota Century Code Annotated
Title 12.1. Criminal Code

Chapter 12.1-12. Bribery--Unlawful Influence of Public Servants

### NDCC, 12.1-12-06

# § 12.1-12-06. Threatening public servants

#### Currentness

- 1. A person is guilty of a class C felony if he threatens harm to another with intent to influence his official action as a public servant in a pending or prospective judicial or administrative proceeding held before him, or with intent to influence him to violate his duty as a public servant.
- 2. A person is guilty of a class C felony if, with intent to influence another's official action as a public servant, he threatens:
  - a. To commit any crime or to do anything unlawful;
  - b. To accuse anyone of a crime; or
  - c. To expose a secret or publicize an asserted fact, whether true or false, tending to subject any person, living or deceased, to hatred, contempt, or ridicule, or to impair another's credit or business repute.
- 3. It is no defense to a prosecution under this section that a person whom the actor sought to influence was not qualified to act in the desired way whether because he had not yet assumed office, or lacked jurisdiction, or for any other reason.

### Credits

S.L. 1973, ch. 116, § 12.

Notes of Decisions (1)

NDCC 12.1-12-06, ND ST 12.1-12-06

Current through chapter 522 (end) of the 2013 Regular Session of the 63rd Legislative Assembly.

End of Document

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### § 12.1-11-02. False statements, ND ST 12.1-11-02

West's North Dakota Century Code Annotated
Title 12.1. Criminal Code
Chapter 12.1-11. Perjury--Falsification--Breach of Duty

#### NDCC, 12.1-11-02

### § 12.1-11-02. False statements

#### Currentness

- 1. A person is guilty of a class A misdemeanor if, in an official proceeding, he makes a false statement, whether or not material, under oath or equivalent affirmation, or swears or affirms the truth of such a statement previously made, if he does not believe the statement to be true.
- 2. A person is guilty of a class A misdemeanor if, in a governmental matter, he:
  - a. Makes a false written statement, when the statement is material and he does not believe it to be true;
  - b. Intentionally creates a false impression in a written application for a pecuniary or other benefit, by omitting information necessary to prevent a material statement therein from being misleading;
  - c. Submits or invites reliance on any material writing which he knows to be forged, altered, or otherwise lacking in authenticity;
  - d. Submits or invites reliance on any sample, specimen, map, boundarymark, or other object which he knows to be false in a material respect; or
  - e. Uses a trick, scheme, or device which he knows to be misleading in a material respect.
- 3. This section does not apply to information given during the course of an investigation into possible commission of an offense unless the information is given in an official proceeding or the declarant is otherwise under a legal duty to give the information. Inapplicability under this subsection is a defense.
- 4. A matter is a "governmental matter" if it is within the jurisdiction of a government office or agency, or of an office, agency, or other establishment in the legislative or the judicial branch of government.

### Credits

S.L. 1973, ch. 116, § 11; S.L. 1975, ch. 116, § 8.

2

# § 12.1-11-02. False statements, ND ST 12.1-11-02

Notes of Decisions (5)

NDCC 12.1-11-02, ND ST 12.1-11-02

Current through chapter 522 (end) of the 2013 Regular Session of the 63rd Legislative Assembly.

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### § 41-10-02. Criminal penalty, ND ST 41-10-02

West's North Dakota Century Code Annotated

Title 41. Uniform Commercial Code (Refs & Annos)

Chapter 41-10. Fraudulent and Harassing Financing Statement Records

### NDCC, 41-10-02

### § 41-10-02. Criminal penalty

### Currentness

- 1. A person commits an offense if the person knowingly causes to be presented for filing in a filing office, or promotes the filing in a filing office, of a financing statement record that the person knows:
  - a. Not to be authorized under section 41-09-80 or 41-09-130 by the natural person whose name was provided as an individual debtor in the financing statement; and
  - b. Was filed or presented for filing with the intent that:
    - (1) The financing statement record be used to harass or hinder the natural person whose name was provided as an individual debtor in the financing statement record without that person's authorization; or
    - (2) The financing statement record be used to defraud any person.
- 2. An offense under this section is a class A misdemeanor, unless it is alleged and shown at the trial of the offense that the person had previously been convicted under this provision on two or more occasions, in which event the offense is a class C felony.

### Credits

S.L. 2007, ch. 355, § 1, eff. Aug. 1, 2007.

NDCC 41-10-02, ND ST 41-10-02

Current through chapter 522 (end) of the 2013 Regular Session of the 63rd Legislative Assembly.

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### § 12.1-15-01. Criminal defamation, ND ST 12.1-15-01

West's North Dakota Century Code Annotated

Title 12.1. Criminal Code

Chapter 12.1-15. Defamation--Interception of Communications

NDCC, 12.1-15-01

### § 12.1-15-01. Criminal defamation

### Currentness

- 1. A person is guilty of a class A misdemeanor if he willfully publishes defamatory matter or knowingly procures such publication or in any way knowingly aids or assists in the same being done.
- 2. It is a defense to a prosecution under this section that:
  - a. The matter alleged to be defamatory is true; or
  - b. The matter alleged to be defamatory was contained in a privileged communication.
- 3. In this section:
  - a. "Defamatory matter" means any written or oral communication concerning a natural person made public with actual malice or with reckless disregard of the truth by any utterance, printing, writing, sign, picture, representation, or effigy tending to expose such person to public hatred, contempt, or ridicule or to deprive him of the benefits of public confidence and social intercourse or any written or oral communication concerning a natural person made public as aforesaid designed to blacken and vilify the memory of one who is dead and tending to scandalize or provoke his surviving relatives and friends.
  - b. "Privileged communication" means a communication made to a person entitled to or interested in the communication by one who is also entitled to or interested or who stood in such relation to the former as to afford a reasonable ground for supposing his motive innocent.
  - c. "Publication" means a knowing display of defamatory matter, or the parting with its immediate custody under circumstances which exposed the defamatory matter to be read or seen or understood by a person other than the publisher of the defamatory matter, although it is not necessary that the matter complained of should have been seen or read by another.

### Credits

S.L. 1973, ch. 116, § 15.

5

# § 12.1-15-01. Criminal defamation, ND ST 12.1-15-01

Notes of Decisions (5)

NDCC 12.1-15-01, ND ST 12.1-15-01

Current through chapter 522 (end) of the 2013 Regular Session of the 63rd Legislative Assembly.

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### § 12.1-17-06. Criminal coercion, ND ST 12.1-17-06

West's North Dakota Century Code Annotated

Title 12.1. Criminal Code

Chapter 12.1-17. Assaults--Threats--Coercion--Harassment

NDCC, 12.1-17-06

### § 12.1-17-06. Criminal coercion

#### Currentness

1. A person is	guilty o	f a class	A misdemeanor	r if, with	h intent to	compel	another	to engage	n or re	efrain	from	conduct,	he
threatens to:													

- a. Commit any crime;
- b. Accuse anyone of a crime;
- c. Expose a secret or publicize an asserted fact, whether true or false, tending to subject any person, living or deceased, to hatred, contempt, or ridicule, or to impair another's credit or business repute; or
- d. Take or withhold official action as a public servant or cause a public servant to take or withhold official action.
- 2. It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section that the actor believed, whether or not mistakenly:
  - a. That the primary purpose of the threat was to cause the other to conduct himself in his own best interest; or
  - b. That a purpose of the threat was to cause the other to desist from misbehavior, engage in behavior from which he could not lawfully abstain, make good a wrong done by him, or refrain from taking any action or responsibility for which he was disqualified.

### Credits

S.L. 1973, ch. 116, § 17.

Notes of Decisions (2)

NDCC 12.1-17-06, ND ST 12.1-17-06

Current through chapter 522 (end) of the 2013 Regular Session of the 63rd Legislative Assembly.

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§ 12.1-17-06. Criminal coercion, ND ST 12.1-17-06						
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15.0733.01001 Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  $\mathcal{HB}/307$ Representative Klemin January 29, 2015

### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1307

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  - b. An offense under this subsection is a class A misdemeanor, unless the person previously pled guilty or had been convicted under this subsection on two or more occasions, in which event the offense is a class C felony.

4."

- Page 1, line 18, overstrike "no" and insert immediately thereafter "not a"
- Page 1, line 18, overstrike "a person" and insert immediately thereafter "an individual"
- Page 1, line 19, overstrike "he" and insert immediately thereafter "the individual"
- Page 1, remove lines 21 through 23
- Page 2, remove lines 1 and 2

Renumber accordingly

House Bill 1307 Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly Testimony of Mike Reitan, Chief of Police, West Fargo Police Department

Good morning Chairman Hogue, Vice Chair Armstrong and members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Mike Reitan and I am the Chief of Police of the West Fargo Police Department. I ask your support of House Bill 1307.

As a public servant we are forced at times to make difficult decisions or complete official actions which may prove to be unpopular with one or more people. Often times such disagreement ends with the complaining party providing a simple rebut of our efforts. The message may be rude and at times could even take on a personal tone. More serious are those cases during which the complaining party will threaten physical harm to a person or a person's property. Such threats may lead to a criminal investigation and the potential of charges being filed.

Another tact taken by some is to file false liens or other encumbrance upon your personal or real property for the purpose of harassing or intimidating you in your professional conduct. The filings may impact your ability to conduct your personal business and may have a detrimental effect on your personal records such as a credit history. HB1307 has been drafted based on a similar statute which affords Federal judges, court officials and law enforcement officers protection from this harassing and intimidating behavior. A public servant should never have to be concerned their official actions will lead to an attack upon their personal matters.

For reference, NDCC 12.1-01-04(27) defines "Public servant" as used in this title and in any statute outside this title which defines an offense means any officer or employee of government, including law enforcement officers, whether elected or appointed, and any person participating in the performance of a governmental function, but the term does not include witnesses.

I thank you for your time and ask for your fair consideration in support of HB 1307. I stand before you to respond to any questions you may have.

Michael D Reitan Chief of Police, West Fargo