

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 193
Version: As introduced

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Subject: Interference with emergency calls

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Overview

Current law provides a gross misdemeanor penalty for interference with a 911 call; this bill clarifies that the gross misdemeanor penalty applies to interference with additional types of emergency telephone calls.

1 Emergency calls and communications.

Subd. 1. Misdemeanor offenses. Makes technical changes. Moves the definition of emergency call used within this subdivision to subdivision 3, so that the definition applies to conduct described in subdivisions 1 and 2.

Subd. 2. Interference with emergency calls; gross misdemeanor. Existing law applied to only 911 calls. This subdivision now applies to all emergency calls and makes interference with emergency calls a gross misdemeanor.

Subd. 3. Definition. Adds a definition of emergency call using language that was in subdivision 1. An emergency call is

- (1) a 911 call;
- (2) a call for emergency medical or ambulance service; or
- (3) a call to police or fire departments to avoid serious harm to person or property, when an emergency exists.

2 Effective date. August 1, 1999, for crimes committed on or after that date.