

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 385

DATE: March 20, 2003

Version: As introduced

Authors: Fuller and others

Subject: Arson in the Fifth Degree

Analyst: Judie Zollar (651 296-1554)

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This bill provides a gross misdemeanor penalty when a person commits a fifth-degree arson crime and the conduct results in bodily harm. In situations where there is no bodily harm, the penalty is a misdemeanor.

Section

1 Arson in the Fifth Degree.

Subd. 1. Makes a technical change to reflect the accurate maximum fine for a misdemeanor.

Subd. 2. Specifies that a gross misdemeanor penalty applies when a person commits fifth-degree arson and the conduct results in bodily harm. Fifth-degree arson occurs when someone intentionally by means of fire or explosives sets fire to or burns or causes to be burned any real or personal property of value. "Bodily harm" has the meaning given in the criminal code: namely, "physical pain or injury, illness, or any impairment of physical condition."

Effective August 1, 2003, and applies to crimes committed on or after that date.