

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Subject:** Fraudulent/improper financing statements

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### Overview

Under Minnesota Statutes, section 609.7475, it is a crime to knowingly file a record that: (1) is not related to a valid lien or security agreement, (2) contains a forged signature, or (3) is based on a document with a forged signature. It is also a crime to file a record with intent that it be used to harass or defraud another person. (The definition of record is contained in article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code.) The five-year felony currently applies to retaliation against judicial officers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, officers of the court, sheriffs, and county recorders.

The bill extends the five-year felony penalty to include a crime committed with intent to retaliate against a public officer or corrections official because of the person's performance of official duties.

Public officer includes: (1) executive or administrative officers of the state, a county, a municipality, or other political subdivision; (2) legislative member or governing board member of a political subdivision; (3) judicial officer; (4) hearing officer; or (5) law enforcement officer.