

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 801  
**Version:** As introduced

**DATE:** March 1, 2015

**Authors:** Johnson, B. and Winkler

**Subject:** Property arson resulting in harm

**Analyst:** Rebecca Pirius, 651-296-5044

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### Overview

This bill creates the new offense of real or personal property arson resulting in bodily harm.

#### Section

#### **1 Real or personal property arson resulting in bodily harm.**

**Subd. 1. Penalty; felony.** Creates a new offense for intentionally setting fire to property which proximately causes bodily harm to any person, including a public safety officer. Provides graduated penalties based on the resulting harm:

- ▶ Great bodily harm – 20-year felony
- ▶ Substantial bodily harm – 10-year felony
- ▶ Demonstrable bodily harm – 5-year felony

**Subd. 2. Definitions.** Provides that “personal property” does not include items where fire is involved in the normal intended use of the property (e.g., candle wick, campfire logs).

Defines “public safety officer” under § 299A.41, subd. 4, which includes peace officers (local, state, reserve, DOT), correctional officers, volunteer and full-time firefighters, arson investigators, EMS personnel, hazardous material responders, good Samaritans, ambulance drivers, and certified first responders.

#### **2 Wildfire; penalty.** Strikes the current 10-year felony for intentionally setting a wildfire that causes bodily harm to another. Cross-references the graduated penalties created in section 1.