

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; increasing criminal penalties for assaulting utility
1.3 company employees; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 609.2231, by
1.4 adding a subdivision.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 609.2231, is amended by adding a
1.7 subdivision to read:

1.8 Subd. 8. **Utility employees.** (a) As used in this subdivision, "utility company" has
1.9 the meaning given in section 609.6055, subdivision 1, paragraph (d), clauses (1) to (3).

1.10 (b) A person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor who:

1.11 (1) assaults an employee of a utility company while the employee is engaged in
1.12 the performance of the employee's duties;

1.13 (2) knows that the victim is a utility company employee engaged in the performance
1.14 of the employee's duties; and

1.15 (3) inflicts demonstrable bodily harm.

1.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2008, and applies to crimes
1.17 committed on or after that date.