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State of Minnesota HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. **4711**

03/31/2022 Authored by Wolgamott

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to public safety; expanding the doxing crime to include other criminal
- 1.3 justice officials; amending Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 609.5151.
- 1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 609.5151, is amended to read:
- 1.6 **609.5151 DISSEMINATION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT LAW**
- 1.7 **ENFORCEMENT CRIMINAL JUSTICE OFFICIALS PROHIBITED; PENALTY.**
- 1.8 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** As used in this section:
- 1.9 (1) "criminal justice official" includes a peace officer as defined in section 626.84,
- 1.10 subdivision 1; a prosecuting attorney as defined in section 609.221, subdivision 6; a judge
- 1.11 as defined in section 609.221, subdivision 6; a person employed as a public defender or a
- 1.12 criminal defense attorney; and other persons employed by or in the same office as those
- 1.13 officials;
- 1.14 (2) "family or household member" has the meaning given in section 518B.01, subdivision
- 1.15 2; and
- 1.16 ~~(2) "law enforcement official" means both peace officers as defined in section 626.84,~~
- 1.17 ~~subdivision 1, and persons employed by a law enforcement agency; and~~
- 1.18 (3) "personal information" means a home address, directions to a home, or photographs
- 1.19 of a home.
- 1.20 Subd. 2. **Crime described.** (a) It is a misdemeanor for a person to knowingly and without
- 1.21 consent make publicly available, including but not limited to through the Internet, personal

2.1 information about a ~~law-enforcement~~ criminal justice official or an official's family or
2.2 household member, if:

2.3 (1) the dissemination poses an imminent and serious threat to the official's safety or the
2.4 safety of an official's family or household member; and

2.5 (2) the person making the information publicly available knows or reasonably should
2.6 know of the imminent and serious threat.

2.7 (b) A person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor if the person violates paragraph (a) and
2.8 a ~~law-enforcement~~ criminal justice official or an official's family or household member
2.9 suffers great bodily harm or death as a result of the violation.

2.10 (c) A person who is convicted of a second or subsequent violation of this section is guilty
2.11 of a gross misdemeanor.

2.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2022, and applies to crimes
2.13 committed on or after that date.