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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 4711

03/31/2022

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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.