

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETIETH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 918**

(SENATE AUTHORS: HOUSLEY)

DATE  
02/13/2017

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Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to public safety; increasing penalties for obstructing a highway under  
1.3 certain circumstances; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 609.74.

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

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 609.74, is amended to read:

1.6 **609.74 PUBLIC NUISANCE.**

1.7 (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), whoever by an act or failure to perform a legal  
1.8 duty intentionally does any of the following is guilty of maintaining a public nuisance,  
1.9 which is a misdemeanor:

1.10 (1) maintains or permits a condition which unreasonably annoys, injures or endangers  
1.11 the safety, health, morals, comfort, or repose of any considerable number of members of  
1.12 the public; or

1.13 (2) interferes with, obstructs, or renders dangerous for passage, any public highway or  
1.14 right-of-way, or waters used by the public; or

1.15 (3) is guilty of any other act or omission declared by law to be a public nuisance and for  
1.16 which no sentence is specifically provided.

1.17 (b) It is a gross misdemeanor for a person to violate paragraph (a), clause (2), on a  
1.18 controlled-access highway or on a public highway within airport property.

1.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2017, and applies to crimes  
1.20 committed on or after that date.