

## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## State of Illinois

## 2021 and 2022

#### SB3015

Introduced 1/5/2022, by Sen. Sara Feigenholtz

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

720 ILCS 5/12-9

from Ch. 38, par. 12-9

Amends the Criminal Code of 2012. In the statute concerning threatening a public official or human service provider, includes in the definition of "public official" a public health officer or administrator of the State or a unit of local government.

LRB102 22865 RLC 32016 b

SB3015

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AN ACT concerning criminal law.

# Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Criminal Code of 2012 is amended by 5 changing Section 12-9 as follows:

6 (720 ILCS 5/12-9) (from Ch. 38, par. 12-9)

Sec. 12-9. Threatening public officials; human service
providers.

9 (a) A person commits threatening a public official or 10 human service provider when:

(1) that person knowingly delivers or conveys, directly or indirectly, to a public official or human service provider by any means a communication:

(i) containing a threat that would place the
public official or human service provider or a member
of his or her immediate family in reasonable
apprehension of immediate or future bodily harm,
sexual assault, confinement, or restraint; or

(ii) containing a threat that would place the public official or human service provider or a member of his or her immediate family in reasonable apprehension that damage will occur to property in the custody, care, or control of the public official or - 2 - LRB102 22865 RLC 32016 b

SB3015

1

his or her immediate family; and

2 (2) the threat was conveyed because of the performance 3 or nonperformance of some public duty or duty as a human 4 service provider, because of hostility of the person 5 making the threat toward the status or position of the 6 public official or the human service provider, or because 7 of any other factor related to the official's public 8 existence.

9 (a-5) For purposes of a threat to a sworn law enforcement 10 officer, the threat must contain specific facts indicative of 11 a unique threat to the person, family or property of the 12 officer and not a generalized threat of harm.

13 (a-6) For purposes of a threat to a social worker, 14 caseworker, investigator, or human service provider, the 15 threat must contain specific facts indicative of a unique 16 threat to the person, family or property of the individual and 17 not a generalized threat of harm.

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(b) For purposes of this Section:

19 (1) "Public official" means a person who is elected to office in accordance with a statute or who is appointed to 20 21 an office which is established, and the qualifications and 22 duties of which are prescribed, by statute, to discharge a 23 public duty for the State or any of its political 24 subdivisions or in the case of an elective office any 25 person who has filed the required documents for nomination or election to such office. "Public official" includes a 26

1 duly appointed assistant State's Attorney, assistant 2 Attorney General, or Appellate Prosecutor; a sworn law 3 enforcement or peace officer; a social worker, caseworker, attorney, or investigator employed by the Department of 4 5 Healthcare and Family Services, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Children and Family Services, 6 7 the Guardianship and Advocacy Commission; or or an 8 assistant public guardian, attorney, social worker, case 9 manager, or investigator employed by a duly appointed public guardian. "Public official" includes a public 10 11 health officer or administrator of the State or a unit of 12 local government.

13 (1.5) "Human service provider" means a social worker, 14 case worker, or investigator employed by an agency or 15 organization providing social work, case work, or 16 investigative services under a contract with or a grant 17 from the Department of Human Services, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Healthcare 18 19 and Family Services, or the Department on Aging.

20 (2) "Immediate family" means a public official's
21 spouse or child or children.

(c) Threatening a public official or human service
provider is a Class 3 felony for a first offense and a Class 2
felony for a second or subsequent offense.

25 (Source: P.A. 100-1, eff. 1-1-18.)

SB3015