

general fund for the biennium ending June 30, 1989, to the superintendent of public instruction to carry out the purposes of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. This act shall expire July 1, 1989.

Passed the Senate March 17, 1987.

Passed the House April 24, 1987.

Approved by the Governor May 7, 1987.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 7, 1987.

## CHAPTER 280

[Substitute Senate Bill No. 5142]

### HARASSMENT—UNLAWFUL HARASSMENT DEFINED—PROTECTION ORDERS PROVIDED FOR

AN ACT Relating to protection from harassment; reenacting and amending RCW 10.31-.100; adding a new chapter to Title 10 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that serious, personal harassment through repeated invasions of a person's privacy by acts and words showing a pattern of harassment designed to coerce, intimidate, or humiliate the victim is increasing. The legislature further finds that the prevention of such harassment is an important governmental objective. This chapter is intended to provide victims with a speedy and inexpensive method of obtaining civil antiharassment protection orders preventing all further unwanted contact between the victim and the perpetrator.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Unlawful harassment" means a knowing and wilful course of conduct directed at a specific person which seriously alarms, annoys, or harasses such person, and which serves no legitimate or lawful purpose. The course of conduct shall be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, and shall actually cause substantial emotional distress to the petitioner.

(2) "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose. Constitutionally protected activity is not included within the meaning of "course of conduct."

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. In determining whether the course of conduct serves any legitimate or lawful purpose, the court should consider whether:

(1) Any current contact between the parties was initiated by the respondent only or was initiated by both parties;

(2) The respondent has been given clear notice that all further contact with the petitioner is unwanted;

- (3) The respondent's course of conduct appears designed to alarm, annoy, or harass the petitioner;
- (4) The respondent is acting pursuant to any statutory authority, including but not limited to acts which are reasonably necessary to:
  - (a) Protect property or liberty interests;
  - (b) Enforce the law; or
  - (c) Meet specific statutory duties or requirements;
- (5) The respondent's course of conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the petitioner's privacy or the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive living environment for the petitioner;
- (6) Contact by the respondent with the petitioner or the petitioner's family has been limited in any manner by any previous court order.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 4. There shall exist an action known as a petition for an order for protection in cases of unlawful harassment.

(1) A petition for relief shall allege the existence of harassment and shall be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath stating the specific facts and circumstances from which relief is sought.

(2) A petition for relief may be made regardless of whether or not there is a pending lawsuit, complaint, petition, or other action between the parties.

(3) All court clerks' offices shall make available simplified forms and instructional brochures. Any assistance or information provided by clerks under this section does not constitute the practice of law and clerks are not responsible for incorrect information contained in a petition.

(4) No filing fee may be charged for a petition filed in an existing action or under an existing cause number brought under this chapter in the jurisdiction where the relief is sought. Forms and instructional brochures shall be provided free of charge.

(5) A person is not required to post a bond to obtain relief in any proceeding under this section.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 5. The administrator for the courts shall develop and prepare, in consultation with interested persons, model forms and instructional brochures required under section 4(3) of this act.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 6. Persons seeking relief under this chapter may file an application for leave to proceed in forma pauperis on forms supplied by the court. If the court determines that a petitioner lacks the funds to pay the costs of filing, the petitioner shall be granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis and no filing fee or any other court related fees shall be charged by the court to the petitioner for relief sought under this chapter. If the petitioner is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, then no fees for service may be charged to the petitioner.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 7. Upon receipt of the petition, the court shall order a hearing which shall be held not later than fourteen days from the date of the order. Personal service shall be made upon the respondent not less than five court days before the hearing. If timely service cannot be made, the court may set a new hearing date.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 8. (1) Upon filing a petition for a civil antiharassment protection order under this chapter, the petitioner may obtain an ex parte temporary antiharassment protection order. An ex parte temporary antiharassment protection order may be granted with or without notice upon the filing of an affidavit which, to the satisfaction of the court, shows reasonable proof of unlawful harassment of the petitioner by the respondent and that great or irreparable harm will result to the petitioner if the temporary antiharassment protection order is not granted.

(2) An ex parte temporary antiharassment protection order shall be effective for a fixed period not to exceed fourteen days, but may be reissued. A full hearing, as provided in this chapter, shall be set for not later than fourteen days from the issuance of the temporary order. The respondent shall be personally served with a copy of the ex parte order along with a copy of the petition and notice of the date set for the hearing.

(3) At the hearing, if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that unlawful harassment exists, a civil antiharassment protection order shall issue prohibiting such unlawful harassment. An order issued under this chapter shall be effective for not more than one year. At any time within the three months before the expiration of the order, the petitioner may apply for a renewal of the order by filing a new petition under this chapter.

(4) The court, in granting an ex parte temporary antiharassment protection order or a civil antiharassment protection order, shall have broad discretion to grant such relief as the court deems proper, including an order:

(a) Restraining the respondent from making any attempts to contact the petitioner;

(b) Restraining the respondent from making any attempts to keep the petitioner under surveillance; and

(c) Requiring the respondent to stay a stated distance from the petitioner's residence and workplace.

(5) A petitioner may not obtain an ex parte temporary antiharassment protection order against a respondent if the petitioner has previously obtained two such ex parte orders against the same respondent but has failed to obtain the issuance of a civil antiharassment protection order unless good cause for such failure can be shown.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 9. Nothing in this chapter shall preclude either party from representation by private counsel or from appearing on his or her own behalf.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 10. (1) An order issued under this chapter shall be personally served upon the respondent, except as provided in subsection (5) of this section.

(2) The sheriff of the county or the peace officers of the municipality in which the respondent resides shall serve the respondent personally unless the petitioner elects to have the respondent served by a private party.

(3) If the sheriff or municipal peace officer cannot complete service upon the respondent within ten days, the sheriff or municipal peace officer shall notify the petitioner.

(4) Returns of service under this chapter shall be made in accordance with the applicable court rules.

(5) If an order entered by the court recites that the respondent appeared in person before the court, the necessity for further service is waived and proof of service of that order is not necessary.

(6) Except in cases where the petitioner is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, municipal police departments serving documents as required under this chapter may collect the same fees for service and mileage authorized by RCW 36.18.040 to be collected by sheriffs.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 11. A copy of an antiharassment protection order granted under this chapter shall be forwarded by the clerk of the court on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order.

Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall forthwith enter the order for one year into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. Entry into the law enforcement information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any county in the state.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 12. Any wilful disobedience by the respondent of any temporary antiharassment protection order or civil antiharassment protection order issued under this chapter shall subject the respondent to criminal penalties under this chapter. Any respondent who wilfully disobeys the terms of any order issued under this chapter may also, in the court's discretion, be found in contempt of court and subject to penalties under chapter 7.20 RCW.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 13. Protection orders authorized under this chapter shall not be issued for any action specifically covered by chapter 10.99 or 26.50 RCW.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 14. Nothing in this chapter shall preclude a petitioner's right to utilize other existing civil remedies.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 15. The superior courts shall have jurisdiction and cognizance of any civil actions and proceedings brought under this

chapter. The municipal and district courts shall have jurisdiction and cognizance of any criminal actions brought under sections 12 and 17 of this act.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 16. For the purposes of this chapter an action may be brought in:

- (1) Any county in which the alleged acts of unlawful harassment occurred;
- (2) Any county where any respondent resides at the time the petition is filed; or
- (3) Any county where a respondent may be served if it is the same county where a respondent resides.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 17. Any respondent who wilfully disobeys any civil antiharassment protection order issued pursuant to this chapter shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 18. Upon application with notice to all parties and after a hearing, the court may modify the terms of an existing order under this chapter. In any situation where an order is terminated or modified before its expiration date, the clerk of the court shall forward on or before the next judicial day a true copy of the modified order or the termination order to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the modified order or termination order. Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall promptly enter it in the law enforcement information system.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 19. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to infringe upon any constitutionally protected rights including, but not limited to, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly.

Sec. 20. Section 1, chapter 198, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. as last amended by section 3, chapter 267, Laws of 1985 and by section 9, chapter 303, Laws of 1985 and RCW 10.31.100 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

A police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a felony shall have the authority to arrest the person without a warrant. A police officer may arrest a person without a warrant for committing a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor only when the offense is committed in the presence of the officer, except as provided in subsections (1) through (5) of this section.

(1) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor, involving physical harm or threats of harm to any person or property or the unlawful taking of property or involving the use or possession of cannabis shall have the authority to arrest the person.

(2) A police officer shall arrest and take into custody, pending release on bail, personal recognizance, or court order, a person without a warrant when the officer has probable cause to believe that:

(a) An order has been issued of which the person has knowledge under RCW 10.99.040(2), 10.99.050, 26.09.060, chapter 26.26 RCW, or chapter 26.50 RCW restraining the person and the person has violated the terms of the order restraining the person from acts or threats of violence or excluding the person from a residence; or

(b) The person is eighteen years or older and within the preceding four hours has assaulted that person's spouse, former spouse, or a person eighteen years or older with whom the person resides or has formerly resided and the officer believes: (i) A felonious assault has occurred; (ii) an assault has occurred which has resulted in bodily injury to the victim, whether the injury is observable by the responding officer or not; or (iii) that any physical action has occurred which was intended to cause another person reasonably to fear imminent serious bodily injury or death. Bodily injury means physical pain, illness, or an impairment of physical condition. When the officer has probable cause to believe that spouses, former spouses, or other persons who reside together or formerly resided together have assaulted each other, the officer is not required to arrest both persons. The officer shall arrest the person whom the officer believes to be the primary physical aggressor. In making this determination, the officer shall make every reasonable effort to consider: (i) The intent to protect victims of domestic violence under RCW 10.99.010; (ii) the comparative extent of injuries inflicted or serious threats creating fear of physical injury; and (iii) the history of domestic violence between the persons involved.

(3) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a violation of any of the following traffic laws shall have the authority to arrest the person:

(a) RCW 46.52.010, relating to duty on striking an unattended car or other property;

(b) RCW 46.52.020, relating to duty in case of injury to or death of a person or damage to an attended vehicle;

(c) RCW 46.61.500 or 46.61.530, relating to reckless driving or racing of vehicles;

(d) RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, relating to persons under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;

(e) RCW 46.20.342, relating to driving a motor vehicle while operator's license is suspended or revoked;

(f) RCW 46.61.525, relating to operating a motor vehicle in a negligent manner.

(4) A law enforcement officer investigating at the scene of a motor vehicle accident may arrest the driver of a motor vehicle involved in the accident if the officer has probable cause to believe that the driver has

committed in connection with the accident a violation of any traffic law or regulation.

(5) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a violation of RCW 88.02.095 shall have the authority to arrest the person.

(6) A police officer may arrest and take into custody, pending release on bail, personal recognizance, or court order, a person without a warrant when the officer has probable cause to believe that an order has been issued of which the person has knowledge under chapter 10.— RCW (sections 1 through 19 of this 1987 act) and the person has violated the terms of that order.

(7) Except as specifically provided in subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section, nothing in this section extends or otherwise affects the powers of arrest prescribed in Title 46 RCW.

~~((7))~~ (8) No police officer may be held criminally or civilly liable for making an arrest pursuant to RCW 10.31.100(2) or (6) if the police officer acts in good faith and without malice.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 21. Sections 1 through 19 of this act shall constitute a new chapter in Title 10 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 22. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Passed the Senate April 20, 1987.

Passed the House April 16, 1987.

Approved by the Governor May 7, 1987.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 7, 1987.

## CHAPTER 281

[Senate Bill No. 5172]

### VICTIMS AND WITNESSES OF CRIMES—CONTINUATION OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS—VEHICULAR HOMICIDE PROOF REQUIREMENTS MODIFIED—BENEFITS MODIFIED

AN ACT Relating to victims or witnesses of crimes; amending RCW 7.68.035, 9.94A-.140, 9.94A.142, 13.40.190, 7.68.020, and 7.68.070; creating a new section; adding a new section to chapter 7.68 RCW; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 10, chapter 302, Laws of 1977 ex. sess. as last amended by section 13, chapter 443, Laws of 1985 and RCW 7.68.035 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Whenever any person is found guilty in any superior court of having committed a crime, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, there shall be imposed by the court upon such convicted person a penalty