

One Hundred Fifth Legislature - Second Session - 2018

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB773

Chairperson: Senator Laura Ebke

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: February 07, 2018

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 773 amends Section 28-1310, which creates the offense of intimidation by telephone call.

Currently, the language in Section 28-1310 does not expressly include threatening and intimidating messages sent directly to individuals via emails and text messages. Arguably, many of these types of intimidation have migrated from the traditional phone call to our more modern forms of electronic communication.

The bill seeks to update by amending the language for the offense of intimidation by telephone call to include intimidation by electronic message, adding our modern tools of communication into the statute.

LB 773 defines "electronic message" and "electronic communication device" for the purpose of Section 28-1310. The term "electronic communication device" is defined by using the definition currently found in Section 28-833.

The penalty would remain a Class III misdemeanor.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Robert Clements