

1 Introduced by Senators Sears, Campbell, and Ayer

2 Referred to Committee on

3 Date:

4 Subject: Crimes; assault on employee of Family Services Division of

5 Department for Children and Families; criminal threatening

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to provide

7 enhanced penalties for assaulting an employee of the Family Services Division

8 of the Department for Children and Families and to establish the crime of

9 criminal threatening.

10 An act relating to enhanced penalties for assaulting an employee of the
11 Family Services Division of the Department for Children and Families and
12 to criminal threatening

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 1028 is amended to read:

15 § 1028. ASSAULT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, FIREFIGHTER,

16 EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL MEMBER, EMPLOYEE

17 OF FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION OF DEPARTMENT FOR

18 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, OR HEALTH CARE WORKER;

19 ASSAULT WITH BODILY FLUIDS

20 (a) A person convicted of a simple or aggravated assault against a law

21 enforcement officer, a firefighter, a health care worker, an employee of the

1 Family Services Division of the Department for Children and Families, or a
2 member of emergency medical personnel as defined in 24 V.S.A. § 2651(6)
3 while the officer, firefighter, health care worker, employee of the Family
4 Services Division, or emergency medical personnel member is performing a
5 lawful duty, in addition to any other penalties imposed under sections 1023 and
6 1024 of this title, shall:

7 (1) for the first offense, be imprisoned not more than one year;

8 (2) for the second offense and subsequent offenses, be imprisoned not
9 more than 10 years.

10 * * *

11 Sec. 2. 13 V.S.A. § 1702 is added to read:

12 § 1702. CRIMINAL THREATENING

13 (a) A person shall not by words or conduct intentionally:

14 (1) threaten another person; and

15 (2) as a result of the threat, place the other person in reasonable fear of
16 death or serious bodily injury.

17 (b) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be imprisoned
18 not more than one year or fined not more than \$1,000.00, or both.

19 (c) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section with the intent to
20 prevent another person from reporting to the Department for Children and

1 Families the suspected abuse or neglect of a child shall be imprisoned not more
2 than two years or fined not more than \$1,000.00, or both.

3 (d) It shall not be a defense to a charge under this section that the person
4 did not intend or have the ability to carry out the threat.

5 (e) As used in this section, “serious bodily injury” shall have the same
6 meaning as in section 1021 of this title.

7 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

8 This act shall take effect on passage.