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SENATE BILL No. 140

Proposed Changes to January 23, 2026 printing by AM014004

DIGEST OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Intimidation. Amends the definition of "threat" in the intimidation statute to include posting a person's personal information on a social media platform with the intent to cause: (1) bodily injury to the person; (2) damage to the person's property; or (3) the commission of a crime against the person. Deletes the separate doxxing statute.

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. ~~<IC 35-45-2>~~ [IC 35-31.5-2-234].5 IS ADDED TO
2 THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW ~~<CHAPTER>~~ [SECTION] TO
3 READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:
4 ~~—Chapter 2.5.-Doxxing~~
5 ~~—Sec. 1. The definitions set forth in sections 2 through 4 of this~~
6 ~~chapter apply throughout this chapter.~~
7 ~~—Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), "personal"~~ [
8 Sec. 234.5. "Personal] information" ~~<refers to>~~ [means]
9 information or a combination of [] information, regardless of
10 whether the information is publicly available, that consists of one
11 (1) or more of the following:
12 (1) The individual's name.
13 (2) The individual's Social Security number.
14 (3) The address of the individual's residence or any other
15 real property owned by the individual.
16 (4) A legal name previously used by the individual.
17 (5) The individual's telephone number.
18 (6) The name or address of the individual's employer.

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(7) The name or address of a location that the individual:

(A) has frequently visited in the past; and

(B) is likely to visit in the future.

(b) The term does not include the address of real property provided on a real estate or mapping platform if the address is not displayed or disclosed in connection with any information identifying the owner or occupant of the real property.

~~Sec. 3.~~ SECTION 2. IC 35-31.5-2-239.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 239.5. "Post" means to deliver, disseminate, or transmit information, regardless of whether the information transmitted is an audio file, a video, an image, or in a text format, to more than one (1) person through a social media platform.

SECTION 3. IC 35-31.5-2-306.8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. ~~306.8~~. "Social media platform" means a website or application that:

(1) is open to the public;

(2) allows users to create accounts;

(3) enables users to communicate or interact with other users;

(4) permits users to create or post content, messages, information, or images that are viewable by other users; and

(5) permits users to comment on or message other users regarding such content, messages, information, or images.

~~Sec. 5.~~ SECTION 4. IC 35-45-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.5-2022, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) A person who

~~(1)~~ communicates a threat with the intent:

(1) that another person engage in conduct against the other person's will;

(2) that another person be placed in fear of retaliation for a prior lawful act;

(3) of:

(A) causing:

(i) a dwelling, a building, or other structure; or

(ii) a vehicle;

to be evacuated; or

(B) interfering with the occupancy of:

(i) a dwelling, building, or other structure; or

(ii) a vehicle; or



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(4) that another person be placed in fear that the threat will be carried out, if the threat is a threat described in:

(A) subsection ~~(c)(1)~~ through ~~(c)(5)~~; (c)(1)(A) through (c)(1)(E); or

(B) subsection ~~(c)(7)~~ through ~~(c)(8)~~; (c)(1)(G) through (c)(1)(H);

commits intimidation, a Class A misdemeanor.

(b) However, the offense is a:

(1) Level 6 felony if:

(A) the threat is to commit a forcible felony;

(B) the subject of the threat or the person to whom the threat is communicated is a witness (or the spouse or child of a witness) in any pending criminal proceeding against the person making the threat;

(C) the threat is communicated because of the occupation, profession, employment status, or ownership status of a person or the threat relates to or is made in connection with the occupation, profession, employment status, or ownership status of a person;

(D) the person has a prior unrelated conviction for an offense under this section concerning the same victim; or

(E) the threat is communicated using property, including electronic equipment or systems, of a school corporation or other governmental entity; and

(2) Level 5 felony if:

(A) while committing it, the person draws or uses a deadly weapon;

(B) the subject of the threat or the person to whom the threat is communicated:

(i) is a judicial officer or bailiff of any court; or

(ii) is a prosecuting attorney or a deputy prosecuting attorney;

and the threat relates to the person's status as a judicial officer, bailiff, prosecuting attorney, or deputy prosecuting attorney, or is made in connection with the official duties of the judicial officer, bailiff, prosecuting attorney, or deputy prosecuting attorney; or

(C) the threat is:

(i) to commit terrorism; or

(ii) made in furtherance of an act of terrorism.

(c) "Threat" means:

(1) an expression, by words or action, of an intention to:

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~~(1) (A) unlawfully injure the person threatened or another person, or damage property;~~

~~(2) (B) unlawfully subject a person to physical confinement or restraint;~~

~~(3) (C) commit a crime;~~

~~(4) (D) unlawfully withhold official action, or cause such withholding;~~

~~(5) (E) unlawfully withhold testimony or information with respect to another person's legal claim or defense, except for a reasonable claim for witness fees or expenses;~~

~~(6) (F) expose the person threatened to hatred, contempt, disgrace, or ridicule;~~

~~(7) (G) falsely harm the credit or business reputation of a person; or~~

~~(8) (H) cause the evacuation of a dwelling, a building, another structure, or a vehicle. For purposes of this subdivision, the term includes an expression that would cause a reasonable person to consider the evacuation of a dwelling, a building, another structure, or a vehicle, even if the dwelling, building, structure, or vehicle is not evacuated; or~~

(2) posting personal information of a person [with the intent <to place an individual in fear of bodily injury or damage to the individual's property; or

~~(2) with the intent to aid, induce, or cause another person to:~~
~~(A) cause>[that the posting of the personal information will result in:~~

~~(A) [bodily injury to the <individual> [person];~~

~~(B) damage [to]the <individual's> [person's] property; or~~

~~(C) <commit>[the commission of] a crime against the <individual;~~

~~posts personal information of the individual commits doxxing, a Class A misdemeanor, except as provided in subsection (b):~~

~~(b) An offense under subsection (a) is a:~~

~~(1) Level 6 felony if the posting of the personal information results in the individual suffering serious bodily injury; and~~

~~(2) Level 5 felony if the posting of the personal information results in the individual suffering a catastrophic injury or death>[person].~~

