

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 597

5 By: Senator B. Johnson
6 By: Representative M. Shepherd
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF THREAT OF
10 HARM UPON A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION EMPLOYEE; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO CREATE THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF THREAT
16 OF HARM UPON A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION
17 EMPLOYEE.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 60, Subchapter 1, is amended
22 to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 5-60-126. Threat of harm upon a financial institution employee.

24 (a) As used in this section, "financial institution employee" means an
25 employee who performs financial institution services and is employed by a:

26 (1) State or national bank or trust company;

27 (2) State or federal savings and loan association;

28 (3) State or federal credit union; or

29 (4) Mortgage loan lender.

30 (b) A person commits the offense of a threat of harm upon a financial
31 institution employee if he or she, under circumstances manifesting extreme
32 indifference to the safety of the financial institution employee, purposely
33 engages in conduct that threatens or creates a potential danger to the
34 financial institution employee while the financial institution employee is
35 engaged in the course of his or her employment.

36 (c) A threat of harm upon a financial institution employee is a Class



1 B misdemeanor.

2 (d) This section does not amend, modify, or affect:

3 (1) Sections 9-27-318(g) or 9-27-318(h)(2) that requires a
4 finding by clear and convincing evidence to transfer a juvenile case to
5 circuit court for prosecution as an adult; and

6 (2) Sections 5-2-327 or 5-2-328 governing the determination of a
7 defendant's fitness to proceed in a criminal case.

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10 **APPROVED: 4/17/25**

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