

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2001 SESSION

CHAPTER 653

An Act to amend and reenact § 18.2-60 of the Code of Virginia, relating to oral or written threats to commit acts of violence on school property; penalty.

[H 197]

Approved March 25, 2001

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-60 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-60. Threats of death or bodily injury to a person or member of his family; threats to commit serious bodily harm to persons on school property; penalty.

A. 1. If Any person write or compose and also send or procure the sending of any letter, inscribed communication or electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message, so written or composed, whether such letter or communication be signed or anonymous, to any person, containing who knowingly communicates, in a writing, including an electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message, a threat to kill or do bodily injury to the a person to whom such letter or communication is sent, or a threat to kill or do bodily injury to, regarding that person or any member of his or her family, the person so writing or composing and sending or procuring the sending of such letter or communication and the threat places such person in reasonable apprehension of death or bodily injury to himself or his family member, shall be is guilty of a Class 6 felony and may be prosecuted either in the county, city or town in which the letter or inscribed communication is composed, written, sent or procured to be sent or in the county, city or town in which the letter or inscribed communication is received.

2. Any person who communicates a threat, in a writing, including an electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message, to kill or do bodily harm, (i) on the grounds or premises of any elementary, middle or secondary school property, (ii) at any elementary, middle or secondary school-sponsored event or (iii) on a school bus to any person or persons, regardless of whether the person who is the object of the threat actually receives the threat, and the threat would place the person who is the object of the threat in reasonable apprehension of death or bodily harm, is guilty of a Class 6 felony.

B. If Any person who orally makes a threat to any employee of any elementary, middle or secondary school, while on a school bus, on school property or at a school-sponsored activity, to kill or to do bodily injury to such person, he shall be is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

A prosecution pursuant to this section may be either in the county, city or town in which the communication was made or received.