FILED FEB 20'03 SENATE FILE <u>185</u> BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1027)

Passed	Senate,	Date Passed	3-5-03Passed	House,	Date	
Vote:	Ayes	Nays	Vote:	Ayes _	Nays	<u> </u>
	AI	pproved				

A BILL FOR

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	An	Act relating to criminal law and procedure, including the	
2		criminal offenses of arson, communications by an arrested	
3		person, and harassment.	
4	BE	IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:	
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TLSB 1037SV 80 jm/cl/14 S.F. 185 H.F.

1 Section 1. Section 692A.14, Code 2003, is amended to read 2 as follows:

3 692A.14 COOPERATION WITH REGISTRATION.

Each agency of state and local government which possesses 4 5 information relevant to requirements that a person register 6 under this chapter shall provide that information to the court 7 or the department upon request. Minutes of testimony shall 8 also be provided to the department of corrections, the 9 department of human services, or the department of public 10 safety upon request for the purpose of conducting an 11 assessment of risk. All other confidential records provided 12 under this section shall remain confidential, unless otherwise 13 ordered by a court, by the lawful custodian of the records, or 14 by another person duly authorized to release such information. 15 Sec. 2. Section 708.7, subsection 1, paragraph a, 16 subparagraph (2), Code 2003, is amended to read as follows: 17 (2)Places a simulated explosive or simulated incendiary 18 device in or near a-building,-vehicle,-airplane,-railroad 19 engine-or-railroad-ear7-or-boat-occupied-by-another-person an 20 occupied structure as defined in section 702.12.

21 Sec. 3. Section 712.1, Code 2003, is amended to read as 22 follows:

23 712.1 ARSON DEFINED.

Causing a fire or explosion, or placing any burning or combustible material, or any incendiary or explosive device or material, in or near any property with the intent to destroy or damage such property, or with the knowledge that such property will probably be destroyed or damaged, is arson, whether or not any such property is actually destroyed or damaged. Arson is also causing by manufacturing or attempting to manufacture a controlled substance in violation of section <u>124.401</u>, a fire or explosion that destroys property. Provided, that where a person who owns said property which the defendant intends to destroy or damage, or which the defendant knowingly endangers, consented to the defendant's acts, and

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1 where no insurer has been exposed fraudulently to any risk, 2 and where the act was done in such a way as not to 3 unreasonably endanger the life or property of any other person 4 the act shall not be arson.

s.f. 185 H.F.

5 Sec. 4. Section 712.2, Code 2003, is amended to read as 6 follows:

7 712.2 ARSON IN THE FIRST DEGREE.

8 Arson is arson in the first degree when the-property-which 9 the-defendant-intends-to-destroy-or-damage;-or-which-the 10 defendant-knowingly-endangers;-is-property-in-which the 11 presence of one or more persons can be reasonably anticipated 12 in or near the property which is the subject of the arson, or 13 the arson results in the death of a fire fighter, whether paid 14 or volunteer.

15 Arson in the first degree is a class "B" felony.

16 Sec. 5. Section 712.3, Code 2003, is amended to read as
17 follows:

18 712.3 ARSON IN THE SECOND DEGREE.

Arson which is not arson in the first degree is arson in the second degree when the property which-the-defendant intends-to-destroy-or-damage;-or-which-the-defendant-knowingly endangers, which is the subject of the arson, is a building or a structure, or real property of any kind, or standing crops, or is personal property the value of which exceeds five hundred dollars. Arson in the second degree is a class "C" felony.

27 Sec. 6. Section 804.20, Code 2003, is amended to read as 28 follows:

29 804.20 COMMUNICATIONS BY ARRESTED PERSONS.

30 Any peace officer or other person having custody of any 31 person arrested or restrained of the person's liberty for any 32 reason whatever, shall permit that person, without unnecessary 33 delay after arrival at the place of detention, to call, 34 consult, and see a member of the person's family or an 35 attorney of the person's choice, or both. Such person shall

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1 be permitted to make a reasonable number of telephone calls as 2 may be required to secure an attorney. If a call is made, it 3 shall be made in the presence of the person having custody of 4 the one arrested or restrained. If such person is 5 intoxicated, or a person under eighteen years of age, the call 6 may be made by the person having custody. An attorney shall 7 be permitted to see and consult confidentially with such 8 person alone and in private at the jail or other place of 9 custody without unreasonable delay. A-violation-of-this 10 section-shall-constitute-a-simple-misdemeanor-11 EXPLANATION 12 This bill relates to criminal law and procedure, including 13 the criminal offenses of arson and communications by an 14 arrested person, and harassment. 15 Code section 692A.14, relating to the sharing of 16 confidential information regarding a sex offender between 17 departments, is amended. The bill provides that the minutes 18 of testimony shall be provided to the department of 19 corrections, the department of human services, or the 20 department of public safety for the purpose of conducting a 21 risk assessment on a sex offender. Current law provides that 22 the minutes of testimony are to be provided upon court order. 23 The minutes of testimony are a summary of the facts which are 24 attached to a criminal indictment or trial information. Code section 708.7, relating to the criminal offense of 25 26 harassment, is amended. The bill expands the definition of 27 harassment to include placing a simulated explosive or 28 simulated incendiary device in or near an occupied structure 29 as defined in Code section 702.12. The current definition 30 includes placing a simulated explosive or simulated incendiary 31 device in or near a building, vehicle, airplane, railroad 32 engine, or railroad car, or boat occupied by another person. Code sections 712.1, 712.2, and 712.3, relating to the 33 34 crime of arson, are amended. The amendment to Code section 35 712.1 changes the definition of arson to provide that a person

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1 who manufactures or attempts to manufacture a controlled 2 substance in violation of Code section 124.401, which then 3 results in a fire or explosion that destroys property, commits 4 arson. Code sections 712.2 and 712.3 are amended to conform 5 with the definitional change in Code section 712.1.

s.f. 185 H.F.

6 Code section 804.20, relating to communications by a person 7 who has been arrested, is amended. The bill eliminates the 8 criminal penalty in Code section 804.20 if a peace officer 9 does not comply with the section, but does not eliminate the 10 requirement of a peace officer to permit an arrested person to 11 speak with a family member of the person or to an attorney 12 after an arrest.

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SF 185 - Public Safety Judiciary Issues (LSB 1037 SV) Analyst: Jennifer Dean (Phone: (515) 281-7846) (jennifer.dean@legis.state.ia.us) Fiscal Note Version — New

## **Description**

Senate File 185 relates to criminal law and procedure, including criminal offenses for arson, communications by an arrested person, and harassment.

### **Assumptions**

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- A six-month lag time will result from the law's effective date (July 1, 2003) to the date of first entry of affected offenders into the correctional system.
- Section 2 of the Bill deals with harassment. In FY 2002, 1,290 persons were convicted of harassment; of which, most were simple misdemeanor offenses. The type of harassment was determined in 259 offenses. Based on the type of harassment in the 259 cases, simulated explosives or simulated incendiary devices make up approximately 1.5% of convictions or 19 per year.
- Sections 3 through 5 of the Bill deal with the crime of arson. In FY 2002, there were over 900 meth labs and meth dumpsites found in Iowa. Approximately, 5.0% or 45 lab sites involved fires. Sections 3 through 5 of the Bill result in one new prison admission per year, which includes an average prison length of stay of 111 months at a cost of \$12 per day, an average length of probation and parole of 27 months at \$1.82 per day, \$3,500 for indigent defense costs, and court costs range from \$195 for a trial without a jury and \$2,200 with a jury.
- 4. Section 3 through 5 of the Bill will result in 6 additional convictions in FY 2004, 11 additional convictions in FY 2005, and 11 additional convictions in FY 2008 for Arson in the first, second, and third degree. These arson convictions will likely be for people already convicted of a Class B or Class C drug offense.
- 5. In FY 2008, one person will be admitted to community-based corrections.
- 6. Arson in the first degree is a forcible felony. The prison rate is assumed to be 100.0%. The imprisonment rates for a Class B drug offense is 79.0%. The imprisonment rate for a Class C drug offense if 32.0% and for a similar arson offense is 33.0%.
- 7. The average cost for one offender being sent to prison is \$47,000 over 11.5 years, which includes court costs, prison, and probation/parole.

# **Correctional Impact**

- The correctional impact for harassment in Section 2 of the Bill is not anticipated to be significant.
- The correctional impact for arson in Sections 3 through 5 of the Bill is anticipated to be one additional prison admission per year for Arson in the first degree. Conviction rates under these Sections would increase by 6 offenders in FY 2004, 11 offenders in FY 2005, and 11 offenders in FY 2008. However, most of these convictions are already being charged under current drug offenses, therefore, only one new prison admission per year would result for Arson in the first degree. By FY 2008, the prison population would increase by four offenders. There would be one new parole/probation admission starting in FY 2008 for these offenders.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The estimated General Fund fiscal impact for Sections 1, 2, and 6 of SF 185 is expected to be minimal. The estimated General Fund fiscal impact for Sections 3, 4, and 5 to send one new admission to prison each year would result in the following:

	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2008
Dept. Of Corrections - Prisons	\$ 2,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 16,000
Indigent Defense	4,000	4,000	4,000
Judicial Branch	2,000	2,000	2,000
Community-Based Corrections	0	0	1,000
Total	\$ 8,000	<b>\$</b> 14,000	\$ 23,000

The cost for one new conviction under SF 185 is \$47,000 over 11.5 years. This Bill will add one new conviction per year.

#### Sources

Judicial Branch Department of Public Safety Department of Human Rights, Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Attorney General Department of Inspections and Appeals

/s/ Dennis C Prouty

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March 3, 2003

#### S-3025

1	Amend Senate File 185 as follows:
2	1. Page 1, line 24, by inserting before the word
3	"Causing" the following: "1."
4	
5	words "Arson is also causing by manufacturing or
	attempting to manufacture a controlled substance in
	violation of section 124.401, a fire or explosion that
	destroys property."
9	<ol><li>Page 2, by inserting after line 4 the</li></ol>
	following:
11	
	manufacture a controlled substance in violation of
	section 124.401, a fire or explosion that destroys
14	property is arson. Even if a person who owns property
	which the defendant intends to destroy or damage, or
16	which the defendant knowingly endangers, consents to
	the defendant's act, and if an insurer has not been
	exposed fraudulently to any risk, and even if the act
	was done in such a way as not to unreasonably endanger
	the life or property of any person, the act
	constitutes arson."
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	"misdemeanor." the following: "A law enforcement
	agency shall develop personnel policies to ensure the
25	implementation of this section."
	By JOHN PUTNEY
	KEITH A. KREIMAN
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	reprinted by the Senate, as follows:
3	1. Page 1, by inserting after line 14 the following:
4 5	"Sec Section 708.2, Code 2003, is amended by
-	adding the following new subsection:
7	NEW SUBSECTION. 4A. A person who commits an
•	assault, as defined in section 708.1, and who uses any
	object to penetrate the genitalia or anus of another
	person, is guilty of a class "C" felony."
11	
	the following: "person, assault, and harassment, and
	providing a penalty."
14	3. By renumbering as necessary.
	BY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
	DAUDIED of Adaim Obsission
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	<pre>186 FILED MARCH 27, 2003 SENATE FILE 185 ★ H-1217 Amend the amendment, H-1186, to Senate File 185, as 2 amended, passed, and reprinted by the Senate, as</pre>
	<pre>186 FILED MARCH 27, 2003 SENATE FILE 185 ★ I-1217 Amend the amendment, H-1186, to Senate File 185, as amended, passed, and reprinted by the Senate, as 3 follows:</pre>
	<pre>186 FILED MARCH 27, 2003 SENATE FILE 185 * I-1217 Amend the amendment, H-1186, to Senate File 185, as amended, passed, and reprinted by the Senate, as follows: 4 1. Page 1, line 8, by inserting after the word</pre>
	<pre>186 FILED MARCH 27, 2003 SENATE FILE 185 ★ I-1217 Amend the amendment, H-1186, to Senate File 185, as amended, passed, and reprinted by the Senate, as 3 follows:</pre>
	<pre>186 FILED MARCH 27, 2003 SENATE FILE 185 ★ I-1217 Amend the amendment, H-1186, to Senate File 185, as amended, passed, and reprinted by the Senate, as follows: 4 1. Page 1, line 8, by inserting after the word 5 "who" the following: "intentionally".</pre>
	<pre>186 FILED MARCH 27, 2003 SENATE FILE 185 × 4-1217 Amend the amendment, H-1186, to Senate File 185, as amended, passed, and reprinted by the Senate, as 3 follows: 4    1. Page 1, line 8, by inserting after the word 5 "who" the following: "intentionally".</pre>

SENATE FILE 185 BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1027)

(AS AMENDED AND PASSED BY THE SENATE MARCH 5, 2003) - New Language by the Senate \* - Language Stricken by the Senate

Passed Senate, Date Resson 3/5/03 Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_

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S.F. 185

S.F. 185 H.F.

1 Section 1. Section 692A.14, Code 2003, is amended to read 2 as follows:

3 692A.14 COOPERATION WITH REGISTRATION.

Each agency of state and local government which possesses Δ 5 information relevant to requirements that a person register 6 under this chapter shall provide that information to the court 7 or the department upon request. Minutes of testimony shall 8 also be provided to the department of corrections, the 9 department of human services, or the department of public 10 safety upon request for the purpose of conducting an 11 assessment of risk. All other confidential records provided 12 under this section shall remain confidential, unless otherwise 13 ordered by a court, by the lawful custodian of the records, or 14 by another person duly authorized to release such information. 15 Sec. 2. Section 708.7, subsection 1, paragraph a, 16 subparagraph (2), Code 2003, is amended to read as follows: 17 Places a simulated explosive or simulated incendiary (2) 18 device in or near a-building,-vehicle,-airplane,-railroad 19 engine-or-railroad-ear7-or-boat-occupied-by-another-person an 20 occupied structure as defined in section 702.12.

21 Sec. 3. Section 712.1, Code 2003, is amended to read as 22 follows:

23 712.1 ARSON DEFINED.

24 <u>1.</u> Causing a fire or explosion, or placing any burning or 25 combustible material, or any incendiary or explosive device or 26 material, in or near any property with the intent to destroy 27 or damage such property, or with the knowledge that such 28 property will probably be destroyed or damaged, is arson, 29 whether or not any such property is actually destroyed or 30 damaged. Provided, that where a person who owns said property 31 which the defendant intends to destroy or damage, or which the 32 defendant knowingly endangers, consented to the defendant's 33 acts, and where no insurer has been exposed fraudulently to 34 any risk, and where the act was done in such a way as not to 35 unreasonably endanger the life or property of any other person

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1 the act shall not be arson.

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2	2. Causing by manufacturing or attempting to manufacture a
3	controlled substance in violation of section 124.401, a fire
4	or explosion that destroys property is arson. Even if a
5	person who owns property which the defendant intends to
6	destroy or damage, or which the defendant knowingly endangers,
7	consents to the defendant's act, and if an insurer has not
8	been exposed fraudulently to any risk, and even if the act was
9	done in such a way as not to unreasonably endanger the life or
10	property of any person, the act constitutes arson.
11	Sec. 4. Section 712.2, Code 2003, is amended to read as
12	follows:
13	712.2 ARSON IN THE FIRST DEGREE.
14	Arson is arson in the first degree when the-property-which
15	the-defendant-intends-to-destroy-or-damage;-or-which-the
16	defendant-knowingly-endangers,-is-property-in-which the
17	presence of one or more persons can be reasonably anticipated
18	in or near the property which is the subject of the arson, or
19	the arson results in the death of a fire fighter, whether paid
20	or volunteer.
21	Arson in the first degree is a class "B" felony.
22	Sec. 5. Section 712.3, Code 2003, is amended to read as
23	follows:
24	712.3 ARSON IN THE SECOND DEGREE.
25	Arson which is not arson in the first degree is arson in
26	the second degree when the property which-the-defendant
27	intends-to-destroy-or-damage;-or-which-the-defendant-knowingly
28	endangers, which is the subject of the arson, is a building or
29	a structure, or real property of any kind, or standing crops,
30	or is personal property the value of which exceeds five
31	hundred dollars. Arson in the second degree is a class "C"
32	felony.
33	Sec. 6. Section 804.20, Code 2003, is amended to read as
34	follows:
35	804.20 COMMUNICATIONS BY ARRESTED PERSONS.

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1	Any peace officer or other person having custody of any
	person arrested or restrained of the person's liberty for any
	reason whatever, shall permit that person, without unnecessary
	delay after arrival at the place of detention, to call,
5	consult, and see a member of the person's family or an
6	attorney of the person's choice, or both. Such person shall
7	be permitted to make a reasonable number of telephone calls as
8	may be required to secure an attorney. If a call is made, it
9	shall be made in the presence of the person having custody of
10	the one arrested or restrained. If such person is
11	intoxicated, or a person under eighteen years of age, the call
12	may be made by the person having custody. An attorney shall
13	be permitted to see and consult confidentially with such
14	person alone and in private at the jail or other place of
15	custody without unreasonable delay. A-violation-of-this
16	section-shall-constitute-a-simple-misdemeanor. <u>A law</u>
17	enforcement agency shall develop personnel policies to ensure
18	the implementation of this section.
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SF 185 jm/cc/26 •

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Succeeded By SSB1027 Putney Tinsman Holveck SENATE/HOUSE FILE JUDICIAN (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF BY PUBLIC SAFETY BILL)

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Passed	Senate,	Date	Passed	House,	Date
Vote:	Ayes	Nays	Vote:	Ayes	Nays
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# A BILL FOR

1	An	Act relating to criminal law and procedure, includi	ng the
2		criminal offenses of arson, communications by an ar	-
3		person, and harassment, and the sex offender regist	
4	BE	IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF	-
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S.F. H.F.

1 Section 1. Section 692A.1, subsection 1, paragraph d, Code
2 2003, is amended to read as follows:

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3 d. Lascivious acts with a child in violation of section 4 709.87-subsection-1.

5 Sec. 2. Section 692A.14, Code 2003, is amended to read as 6 follows:

7 692A.14 COOPERATION WITH REGISTRATION.

8 Each agency of state and local government which possesses 9 information relevant to requirements that a person register 10 under this chapter shall provide that information to the court 11 or the department upon request. Minutes of testimony shall 12 also be provided to the department of corrections, the 13 department of human services, or the department of public 14 safety upon request for the purpose of conducting an 15 assessment of risk. All other confidential records provided 16 under this section shall remain confidential, unless otherwise 17 ordered by a court, by the lawful custodian of the records, or 18 by another person duly authorized to release such information. 19 Sec. 3. Section 708.7, subsection 1, paragraph a, 20 subparagraph (2), Code 2003, is amended to read as follows: 21 (2) Places a simulated explosive or simulated incendiary 22 device in or-near-a-building,-vehicle,-airplane,-railroad 23 engine-or-railroad-car7-or-boat-occupied-by-another-person a 24 manner which would endanger a person or property.

25 Sec. 4. Section 712.1, Code 2003, is amended to read as 26 follows:

27 712.1 ARSON DEFINED.

28 Causing a fire or explosion, or placing any burning or 29 combustible material, or any incendiary or explosive device or 30 material, in or near any property with the intent to destroy 31 or damage such property, or with the knowledge that such 32 property will probably be destroyed or damaged, is arson, 33 whether or not any such property is actually destroyed or 34 damaged. <u>Arson is also causing by manufacturing or attempting</u> 35 to manufacture a controlled substance in violation of section

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1 124.401, a fire or explosion that destroys property. 2 Provided, that where a person who owns said property which the 3 defendant intends to destroy or damage, or which the defendant 4 knowingly endangers, consented to the defendant's acts, and 5 where no insurer has been exposed fraudulently to any risk, 6 and where the act was done in such a way as not to 7 unreasonably endanger the life or property of any other person 8 the act shall not be arson. Sec. 5. Section 712.2, Code 2003, is amended to read as 9 10 follows: 11 712.2 ARSON IN THE FIRST DEGREE. Arson is arson in the first degree when the-property-which 12 13 the-defendant-intends-to-destroy-or-damage7-or-which-the 14 defendant-knowingly-endangers,-is-property-in-which the 15 presence of one or more persons can be reasonably anticipated 16 in or near the property which is the subject of the arson, or 17 the arson results in the death of a fire fighter, whether paid 18 or volunteer. Arson in the first degree is a class "B" felony. 19 Sec. 6. Section 712.3, Code 2003, is amended to read as 20 21 follows: 712.3 ARSON IN THE SECOND DEGREE. 22 23 Arson which is not arson in the first degree is arson in 24 the second degree when the property which-the-defendant 25 intends-to-destroy-or-damage,-or-which-the-defendant-knowingly 26 endangers, which is the subject of the arson, is a building or 27 a structure, or real property of any kind, or standing crops, 28 or is personal property the value of which exceeds five 29 hundred dollars. Arson in the second degree is a class "C" 30 felony. 31 Sec. 7. Section 804.20, Code 2003, is amended to read as 32 follows: 33 804.20 COMMUNICATIONS BY ARRESTED PERSONS. 34 Any peace officer or other person having custody of any 35 person arrested or restrained of the person's liberty for any

S.F. H.F.

1 reason whatever, shall permit that person, without unnecessary 2 delay after arrival at the place of detention, to call, 3 consult, and see a member of the person's family or an 4 attorney of the person's choice, or both. Such person shall 5 be permitted to make a reasonable number of telephone calls as 6 may be required to secure an attorney. If a call is made, it 7 shall be made in the presence of the person having custody of 8 the one arrested or restrained. If such person is 9 intoxicated, or a person under eighteen years of age, the call 10 may be made by the person having custody. An attorney shall 11 be permitted to see and consult confidentially with such 12 person alone and in private at the jail or other place of 13 custody without unreasonable delay. A-violation-of-this 14 section-shall-constitute-a-simple-misdemeanor. 15 EXPLANATION 16 This bill relates to criminal law and procedure, including 17 the criminal offenses of arson and communications by an 18 arrested person, and the sex offender registry. Code section 692A.1, relating to the definition of an 19 20 "aggravated offense" in the sex offender registry Code 21 chapter, is amended. The bill provides that a person who 22 commits any act of lascivious acts with a child commits an 23 aggravated offense. Current law provides that a person who 24 commits lascivious acts with a child in violation of Code 25 section 709.8, subsection 1, commits an aggravated offense. Α

26 person who commits an aggravated offense is required to 27 register as a sex offender for life.

Code section 692A.14, relating to the sharing of confidential information regarding a sex offender between departments, is amended. The bill provides that the minutes of testimony shall be provided to the department of corrections, the department of human services, or the department of public safety for the purpose of conducting a risk assessment on a sex offender. Current law provides that the minutes of testimony are to be provided upon court order.

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S.F. \_\_\_\_\_ H.F. \_\_\_\_\_

1 The minutes of testimony are a summary of the facts which are 2 attached to a criminal indictment or trial information. 3 Code section 708.7, relating to the criminal offense of 4 harassment, is amended. The bill expands the definition of 5 harassment to include placing a simulated explosive or 6 simulated incendiary device in a manner which would endanger a 7 person or any property. The current definition includes 8 placing a simulated explosive or simulated incendiary device 9 in or near a building, vehicle, airplane, railroad engine, or 10 railroad car, or boat occupied by another person. 11 Code sections 712.1, 712.2, and 712.3, relating to the 12 crime of arson, are amended. The amendment to Code section 13 712.1 changes the definition of arson to provide that a person 14 who manufactures or attempts to manufacture a controlled 15 substance in violation of Code section 124.401, which then 16 results in a fire or explosion that destroys property, commits 17 arson. Code sections 712.2 and 712.3 are amended to conform 18 with the definitional change in Code section 712.1. 19 Code section 804.20, relating to communications by a person 20 who has been arrested, is amended. The bill eliminates the 21 criminal penalty in Code section 804.20 if a peace officer 22 does not comply with the section, but does not eliminate the 23 requirement of a peace officer to permit an arrested person to 24 speak with a family member of the person or to an attorney 25 after an arrest. 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35

> LSB 1037DP 80 jm/cls/14

Thomas J. Vilsack Governor Sally J. Pederson Lt. Governor



Kevin W. Techau Commissioner

10:	Members of the General Assembly
FROM:	Betsy Dittemore, Legislative Liaison

DATE: January 13, 2003

RE: Amending various sections of the criminal code

Sections 1 and 2. 692A.1 - Sex Offender registration-Lascivious Acts with a Child. Currently only subsection 1 of 709.8 is included as an "aggravated offense" requiring lifetime registration. This proposal includes the 3 additional elements of this section, (2) permit or cause a child to fondle or touch the person's genitals or pubes (3) solicit a child to engage in a sex act or solicit a person to arrange a sex act with a child (4) inflict pain or discomfort upon a child or permit a child to inflict pain or discomfort on the person. These additional elements are considered to be as serious as subsection 1 (fondle or touch the pubes or genitals of a child).

692A.14 – Minutes of Testimony. In order to conduct a thorough and accurate risk assessment of a sex offender's potential to re-offend, it is critical to have access to all pertinent information. Currently minutes of testimony are sealed and may only be obtained by requesting the county attorney to obtain a court order. Departments conducting risk assessments have been authorized access through these means, however, removing the current restriction would save the time and effort involved in obtaining this information.

Sections 3-6. Harassment - Simulated explosives 708.7 - For purposes of charging a violation for placing a simulated explosive or incendiary, current language in this section requires that a person actually be occupying a facility. This proposal expands the definition to include placing a simulated explosive in a manner that would endanger a person or any property. The actual fear and disruption caused, whether a device is real or later found to be simulated, and the response by emergency personnel, is the same whether a person is actually present or appears at a later time.

Arson 712.1 - The current arson definition would not allow charges of arson to be filed if a fire or explosion resulted from the manufacture of a controlled substance. There have been several fires and explosions resulting from the manufacture of methamphetamine, for example. This proposal incorporates this additional element into the definition of arson in 712.1 and provides an alternative option for charging a violation of 712.1.

Section 7. Communications by arrested persons – 804.20 On occasion there is dispute as to whether proper procedures were followed in making an arrest. Courts routinely deal with and rule on these procedural matters. Current section 804.20 is the only area in the code where a criminal penalty may be imposed for a procedural matter. We propose that it is unnecessary and should be struck.