House File 340 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE

BY HEDDENS, WESSEL=KROESCHELL,
BUKTA, ABDUL=SAMAD, FREVERT,
PETERSEN, SCHUELLER, GAYMAN,
BERRY, WHITEAD, GASKILL,
D. OLSON, WHITAKER, and
MERTZ

Passed	House,	Date		Passed	Senate,	Date		
Vote:	Ayes _		Nays	_ Vote:	Ayes _		Nays	
		Approv	red	_			-	

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the characteristics of a victim of a hate

2 crime and making penalties applicable.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

4 TLSB 1620HH 82

5 rh/gg/14

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Section 1. Section 729A.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2 2007, is amended to read as follows: 3 "Hate crime" means one of the following public offenses 4 when committed against a person or a person's property because 1 5 of the person's <u>actual or perceived</u> race, color, religion, 6 ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, sex, sexual 7 orientation, age, or disability, or the person's association 1 1 8 with a person of a certain <u>actual or perceived</u> race, color, 1 9 religion, ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, 1 10 sex, sexual orientation, age, or disability: 1 11 EXPLANATION This bill amends the definition of "hate crime" to include 1 12 13 an assault, individual rights violation, criminal mischief, or 1 14 trespass committed against a person or a person's property 1 15 because of the offender's bias against a person's actual or 1 16 perceived race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, 1 17 political affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, age, or 1 18 disability. 1 19 The penalties for an assault in violation of individual 20 rights involving a hate crime range from a serious misdemeanor 1 21 to a class "D" felony and penalties for trespass in violation 1 22 of individual rights involving a hate crime are classified as 23 either a serious misdemeanor or an aggravated misdemeanor. 24 Penalties relating to the crimes of arson pursuant to Code 1 25 chapter 712 and criminal mischief involving a hate crime are

26 classified and punished as an offense one degree higher than

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27 the underlying offense.