

CHAPTER 79
HB 59-FN - FINAL VERSION

13Mar2025... 0590h
01/07/2026 3083s
23Apr2026... 1557EBA

2026 SESSION

25-0026
09/08

HOUSE BILL ***59-FN***

AN ACT relative to the assault of a firefighter, emergency medical care provider, or law enforcement officer.

SPONSORS: Rep. D. Mannion, Rock. 25; Rep. S. Pearson, Rock. 13; Rep. Proulx, Hills. 15; Rep. Roy, Rock. 31; Rep. Seidel, Hills. 29; Sen. Abbas, Dist 22

COMMITTEE: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes felony-level offenses for assaults on firefighters, emergency medical care providers, and law enforcement and for assaults specifically targeting law enforcement officers.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT relative to the assault of a firefighter, emergency medical care provider, or law enforcement officer.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 79:1 New Subparagraph; Criminal Code; First Degree Assault; Elements of Offense. Amend RSA
2 631:1, I by inserting after subparagraph (d) the following new subparagraph:

3 (e) Knowingly causes serious bodily injury to a law enforcement officer, a paid firefighter,
4 volunteer firefighter, on-call firefighter, or licensed emergency medical care provider as defined in RSA
5 153-A:2, V, acting in the line of duty; or commits such an act against a law enforcement officer whether or
6 not the officer is on duty, where the purpose was to harm the officer because of his or her present or
7 previous employment as a law enforcement officer.

8 79:2 New Subparagraph; Criminal Code; Second Degree Assault; Elements of Offense. Amend RSA
9 631:2, I by inserting after subparagraph (f) the following new subparagraph:

10 (g) Knowingly causes bodily injury to a law enforcement officer, a paid firefighter, volunteer
11 firefighter, on-call firefighter, or licensed emergency medical care provider as defined in RSA 153-A:2, V,
12 acting in the line of duty; or commits such an act against a law enforcement officer whether or not the
13 officer is on duty, where the purpose was to harm the officer because of his or her present or previous
14 employment as a law enforcement officer.

15 79:3 Extended Term of Imprisonment. Amend RSA 651:6, I(g) to read as follows:

16 (g) Has knowingly committed or attempted to commit any of the crimes defined in RSA 631,
17 ***other than a violation of RSA 631:1, I(e) or RSA 631:2, I(g)***, where he or she knows the victim was, at the
18 time of the commission of the crime, a law enforcement officer, a paid firefighter, volunteer firefighter, on-
19 call firefighter, or licensed emergency medical care provider as defined in RSA 153-A:2, V acting in the
20 line of duty;

21 79:4 First Degree Assault; Elements. Amend RSA 631:1, I(d) to read as follows:

22 (d) Knowingly or recklessly causes serious bodily injury to a person under 13 years of age[-];
23 ***or***

24 79:5 Second Degree Assault; Elements. Amend RSA 631:2, I(f) to read as follows:

25 (f) Purposely or knowingly engages in the strangulation of another[-]; ***or***

26 79:6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage

Approved: May 22, 2026
Effective Date: July 21, 2026

