

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

S.F. No. 5143

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DATE
03/21/2024

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Introduction and first reading
Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; expanding fourth-degree assault crime related to transit
1.3 operators to include transportation network company drivers; amending Minnesota
1.4 Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 609.2231, subdivision 11.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 609.2231, subdivision 11, is
1.7 amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 11. **Transit operators.** (a) A person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor if (1) the
1.9 person assaults a transit operator, or intentionally throws or otherwise transfers bodily fluids
1.10 onto a transit operator; and (2) the transit operator is acting in the course of the operator's
1.11 duties and is operating a transit vehicle, aboard a transit vehicle, or otherwise responsible
1.12 for a transit vehicle. A person convicted under this paragraph may be sentenced to
1.13 imprisonment for not more than 364 days or to payment of a fine of not more than \$3,000,
1.14 or both.

1.15 (b) For the purposes of this subdivision, "transit operator" means a driver or operator of
1.16 a transit vehicle that is used to provide any of the following services:

1.17 (1) public transit, as defined in section 174.22, subdivision 7;

1.18 (2) light rail transit service;

1.19 (3) special transportation service under section 473.386, whether provided by the
1.20 Metropolitan Council or by other providers under contract with the council; ~~or~~

1.21 (4) commuter rail service; or

2.1 (5) transportation in a personal vehicle through a transportation network company under
2.2 section 65B.472, subdivision 1, paragraph (e).

2.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024, and applies to crimes
2.4 committed on or after that date.