



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Sixth Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2742

aggravated assault; transit; airport; rail

Purpose

Adds public transit employees, airport employees and railway workers as protected persons in the *aggravated assault* criminal classification.

Background

A person commits *assault* by: 1) intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing any physical injury to another person; 2) intentionally placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent physical injury; or 3) knowingly touching another person with the intent to injure, insult or provoke such person. *Assault* is a class 1, 2 or 3 misdemeanor depending on the circumstances of the offense ([A.R.S. § 13-1203](#)).

A person commits *aggravated assault* if a person commits assault and certain aggravating circumstances apply, including if the person causes serious physical injury to another or uses a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument in the commission of the offense. A person also commits aggravated assault if the person commits assault on a person knowing or having reason to know that the victim is: 1) a peace officer; 2) a constable; 3) a firefighter, fire investigator, fire inspector, emergency medical technician or paramedic engaged in the execution of official duties; 4) a teacher or other school employee as outlined; 5) certain health care workers while engaged in official duties; 6) prosecutors; 7) code enforcement officers; 8) park rangers; 9) public defenders; and 10) judicial officer. The penalty for *aggravated assault* ranges from a class 2 felony to a class 6 felony depending on the circumstances of the offense ([A.R.S. § 13-1204](#)).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Classifies, as *aggravated assault*, committing assault while knowing or having reason to know that the victim is any of the following:
 - a) a public transit employee who performs duties on and off a vehicle while engaged in transferring members of the community to and from destinations in a bus, van or shuttle;
 - b) an airport employee who interacts with the public while engaged in the airport employee's work duties; or
 - c) a railway worker while engaged in operating a train, light rail or passenger rail or performing track maintenance.
2. Classifies *aggravated assault* against any of the aforementioned persons as a class 6 felony.

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3. Decreases the penalty for *assault* by way of intentionally placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent physical injury from a class 2 misdemeanor to a class 3 misdemeanor.
4. Makes technical changes.
5. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

JUD	2/14/24	DPA	8-1-0-0
3 rd Read	2/26/24		53-3-3-0-1

Prepared by Senate Research

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ZD/cs