

# **ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Fifty-fifth Legislature First Regular Session

Senate: DPA 8-0-0-0 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Read 28-0-2-0 House: JUD DP 6-3-0-1 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Read 58-1-1-0

# <u>SB 1248</u>: electronic communications; social media post Sponsor: Senator Petersen, LD 12 Transmitted to the Governor

## **Overview**

Adds a social media post to the definition of *electronic communication*.

### <u>History</u>

Under current law, it is unlawful for any person who intends to terrify, intimidate, threaten or harass, to use electronic communication to use obscene/lewd language or threaten physical harm to any person. Individuals who use electronic communication in this manner are subjected to a class 1 misdemeanor. Statute exempts constitutionally protected speech or activity authorized by law. (A.R.S. § 13-2916).

*Electronic communication* is defined as a wireline, cable, wireless or cellular telephone call, a text message, an instant message or electronic mail (A.R.S. § 13-2916).

*Harassment* is defined as conduct directed at a specific person and that would cause a reasonable person to be seriously alarmed, annoyed or harassed (<u>A.R.S. § 13-2921</u>).

#### **Provisions**

- 1. Includes a social media post in the definition of *electronic communication*. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Requires an individually to act knowingly, rather than with intent, to be in violation of this section. (Sec. 1)
- 3. Defines social media post. (Sec. 1)
- 4. Makes technical changes. (Sec. 1)

□ Prop 105 (45 votes) □ Prop 108 (40 votes) □ Emergency (40 votes) □ Fiscal Note