

As Amended by House Committee

Session of 2024

HOUSE BILL No. 2808

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

Requested by Tuck Duncan on behalf of the Kansas Public Transit Association

2-19

1 AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; creating
2 the crimes of causing harm to a public transportation employee ~~and,~~
3 aggravated causing harm to a public transportation employee **and**
4 **abuse of sports official; providing penalties therefor.**
5

6 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

7 Section 1. (a) Causing harm to a public transportation employee is:

8 (1) Causing physical contact with a public transportation employee
9 by spitting, throwing or otherwise transferring bodily fluids, pathogens or
10 human waste onto the person of the public transportation employee;

11 (2) throwing an object such as a brick, rock, bottle, projectile,
12 firework, chemical agent or explosive device that a reasonable person
13 knows or should know could cause physical injury if the object struck a
14 public transportation employee; or

15 (3) physically striking a public transportation employee by punching,
16 kicking, slapping or otherwise striking the public transportation employee.

17 (b) Aggravated causing harm to a public transportation employee is:

18 (1) Causing physical contact resulting in a serious injury to a public
19 transportation employee;

20 (2) brandishing a firearm or other weapon in such a manner that the
21 display of the firearm or other weapon creates a substantial threat of
22 serious physical injury or death to such a public transportation employee;
23 or

24 (3) attempting to strangle such a public transportation employee
25 causing serious injury to a public transportation employee.

26 (c) (1) Causing physical contact with a public transportation
27 employee is a class A person misdemeanor.

28 (2) Aggravated causing harm to a public transportation employee is a
29 severity level 7, personal felony.

30 (d) "Public transportation employee" means any employee or contract
31 employee of a transportation system as the term "transportation system" is
32 defined in K.S.A. 75-5034, and amendments thereto.

33 **Sec. 2. (a) Abuse of a sports official is intentionally:**

34 **(1) Striking, shoving, kicking, spitting on or otherwise causing**
35 **physical contact with a sports official or threatening to engage in such**

1 **conduct;**

2 **(2) approaching a sports official in a menacing, threatening, irate**
3 **or violent manner that would cause a reasonable person to fear for**
4 **such person's safety; or**

5 **(3) directing threatening, abusive or obscene language or making**
6 **obscene gestures toward a sports official that would cause a**
7 **reasonable person to fear for such person's safety.**

8 **(b) Abuse of a sports official is a:**

9 **(1) Class B person misdemeanor, except as provided in subsection**
10 **(b)(2); and**

11 **(2) class A person misdemeanor, if the sports official is less than**
12 **18 years of age.**

13 **(c) For the purposes of this section, "sports official" means a**
14 **person who serves as a referee, umpire, linesman, timekeeper,**
15 **assistant, inspector or judge, or performs similar functions at a**
16 **competitive event, whether paid or unpaid.**

17 **(d) This section shall be a part of and supplemental to the Kansas**
18 **criminal code.**

19 **Sec. 23.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
20 publication in the statute book.