

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 199

BY REPRESENTATIVE BURFORD

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CRIME: Provides with respect to assault and battery of a utility service employee

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:37.5(C) and to enact R.S. 14:34.5.2, relative to crimes  
3 committed against utility service employees; to create the crime of battery of a utility  
4 service employee; to provide for definitions; to provide criminal penalties; to provide  
5 for increased penalties for aggravated assault upon a utility service employee; and  
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 14:37.5(C) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 14:34.5.2 is  
9 hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §34.5.2. Battery of a utility service employee

11 A. Battery of a utility service employee is a battery committed without the  
12 consent of the victim when the offender has reasonable grounds to believe the victim  
13 is a utility service employee acting in the performance of his employment duties.

14 B. For purposes of this Section:

15 (1) "Utility service" means any electricity, gas, water, broadband, cable  
16 television, or telecommunications service.

17 (2) "Utility service employee" means any uniformed, readily identifiable  
18 employee of any utility service.

19 C. Whoever commits the crime of battery of a utility service employee shall  
20 be fined not more than five hundred dollars, imprisoned for not less than fifteen days



imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less than one year nor more than five years, or both.

(Amends R.S. 14:37.5(C); Adds R.S. 14:34.5.2)