

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 37

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HIGDON.

0044H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 319, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the establishment of police lines or barricades, with a penalty provision.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 319, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 319.510, to read as follows:

319.510. 1. Whenever fires, accidents, wrecks, explosions, crimes, riots, or other emergency situations where life, limb, or property may be endangered may cause persons to collect on the public streets, alleys, highways, parking lots, or other public areas, the chief law enforcement officer of any locality or that officer's authorized representative who is responsible for the security of the scene may establish such areas, zones, or perimeters by the placement of police lines or barricades as are reasonably necessary to preserve the integrity of evidence at such scenes; facilitate the movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic into, out of, and around the scene; permit firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical services personnel to perform necessary operations unimpeded; and protect persons and property.

2. Any police line or barricade erected for these purposes shall be clearly identified by wording such as "Police Line -- DO NOT CROSS" or other similar wording. If material or equipment is not available for identifying the prohibited area, then a verbal warning by identifiable law enforcement officials positioned to indicate a location of a police line or barricade shall be given to any person or persons attempting to cross police lines or barricades without proper authorization.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 **3. Such scene may be secured no longer than is reasonably necessary to effect the**
18 **purposes described in subsection 1 of this section. Nothing in this section shall limit or**
19 **otherwise affect the authority of, or be construed to deny access to such scene by, any**
20 **person charged by law with the responsibility of rendering assistance at or investigating**
21 **any such fires, accidents, wrecks, explosions, crimes, or riots.**

22 **4. It shall be unlawful for any person to cross or remain within police lines or**
23 **barricades which have been established under this section without proper authorization.**

24 **5. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a class A**
25 **misdemeanor.**

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