
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 910 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, LEACH, WILLIAMS, COSTA, SCHWANK, BROWNE
AND HUGHES, SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and
2 Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
3 Statutes, in assault, further providing for the offense of
4 terroristic threats and for the offense of terrorism and
5 providing for the offense of harboring or concealing
6 terrorists; and, in limitation of time, further providing for
7 no limitation applicable.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Sections 2706(a) and (e) and 2717(a), (b) (2) and
11 (c) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are
12 amended to read:

13 § 2706. Terroristic threats.

14 (a) Offense defined.--A person commits the crime of
15 terroristic threats if the person communicates, either directly
16 or indirectly, a threat to:

17 (1) commit any crime of violence or personal injury
18 crime with intent to terrorize another;

19 (2) cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or
20 facility of public transportation; or

1 (3) otherwise cause serious public inconvenience, or
2 cause terror or serious public inconvenience with reckless
3 disregard of the risk of causing such terror or
4 inconvenience.

5 * * *

6 (e) [Definition.--As used in this section, the term
7 "communicates" means conveys] Definitions.--As used in this
8 section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings
9 given to them in this subsection unless the context clearly
10 indicates otherwise:

11 "Communicates." Conveys in person or by written or
12 electronic means, including telephone, electronic mail,
13 Internet, facsimile, telex and similar transmissions.

14 "Crime of violence." As defined under 42 Pa.C.S. § 9714
15 (relating to sentences for second and subsequent offenses).

16 "Personal injury crime." As defined under section 103 of the
17 act of November 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111), known as the Crime
18 Victims Act.

19 § 2717. Terrorism.

20 (a) General rule.--A person is guilty of terrorism if he
21 commits or attempts or conspires with another or solicits
22 another to commit a violent offense intending to do any of the
23 following:

24 (1) Intimidate or coerce a civilian population.

25 (2) Influence the policy of a government by intimidation
26 or coercion.

27 (3) Affect the conduct of a government.

28 (b) Grading and penalty.--

29 * * *

30 (2) [If] Notwithstanding section 1103 (relating to

1 sentence of imprisonment for felony), if the violent offense
2 is a felony of the first degree, a person convicted of an
3 offense under this section shall be sentenced [to a term of
4 imprisonment fixed by the court at not more than 40 years and
5 may be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$100,000.] as
6 follows:

7 (i) If the offense results in bodily injury to one
8 or more persons, the person shall be sentenced to a term
9 of imprisonment fixed by the court of not more than 40
10 years and may be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than
11 \$100,000.

12 (ii) If the offense results in serious bodily injury
13 to one or more persons, the person shall be sentenced to
14 a term of imprisonment fixed by the court of not more
15 than 60 years and may be sentenced to pay a fine of not
16 more than \$200,000.

17 (iii) If the offense results in death to one or more
18 persons, the person shall be sentenced to a term fixed by
19 the court up to a maximum term of life imprisonment and
20 may be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$500,000.

21 * * *

22 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
23 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
24 subsection:

25 "Dangerous to human life or property." A violent act or an
26 act which is intended to or likely to cause death, serious
27 bodily injury, bodily injury or mass destruction.

28 "Mass destruction." An act which is intended to or likely to
29 destroy or cause serious damage to transportation-related
30 infrastructure or facilities, energy-related infrastructure or

1 facilities, public or private buildings, places of public
2 accommodation or public works under circumstances evincing
3 depraved indifference to human life or property.

4 "Violent offense." An offense under this part or 75 Pa.C.S.
5 Pt. III (relating to operation of vehicles), including an
6 attempt, conspiracy or solicitation to commit any such offense,
7 which is punishable by imprisonment of more than one year and
8 involves an act dangerous to human life or property.

9 Section 2. Title 18 is amended by adding a section to read:
10 § 2717.1. Harboring or concealing terrorists.

11 (a) Offense defined.--A person is guilty of an offense if
12 the person harbors or conceals a person who the person knows, or
13 reasonably believes, has committed or is about to commit an
14 offense under one of the following:

15 (1) Section 2715 (relating to threat to use weapons of
16 mass destruction).

17 (2) Section 2716 (relating to weapons of mass
18 destruction).

19 (3) Section 2717 (relating to terrorism).

20 (4) Section 3301 (relating to arson and related
21 offenses).

22 (5) Section 3302 (relating to causing or risking
23 catastrophe).

24 (6) Section 5501 (relating to riot).

25 (7) Section 5515 (relating to prohibiting of
26 paramilitary training).

27 (b) Grading.--An offense under this section is a misdemeanor
28 of the first degree. A second or subsequent offense is a felony
29 of the third degree.

30 Section 3. Section 5551 of Title 42 is amended by adding a

1 paragraph to read:

2 § 5551. No limitation applicable.

3 A prosecution for the following offenses may be commenced at
4 any time:

5 * * *

6 (7) A violation of 18 Pa.C.S. § 2717 (relating to
7 terrorism), including conspiracy to commit terrorism.

8 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.