
SENATE BILL 5135

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Senator Das

Prefiled 01/08/21.

1 AN ACT Relating to unlawfully summoning a police officer; and
2 adding a new section to chapter 4.24 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) A person may bring a civil action for damages against any
7 person who knowingly causes a law enforcement officer to arrive at a
8 location to contact another person with the intent to:

9 (a) Infringe on the other person's rights under the Washington
10 state or United States Constitutions;

11 (b) Unlawfully discriminate against the other person;

12 (c) Cause the other person to feel harassed, humiliated, or
13 embarrassed;

14 (d) Cause the other person to be expelled from a place in which
15 the other person is lawfully located; or

16 (e) Damage the other person's:

17 (i) Reputation or standing in the community; or

18 (ii) Financial, economic, consumer, or business prospects or
19 interests.

20 (2) Upon prevailing in an action under this section, the
21 plaintiff may recover:

1 (a) The greater of:
2 (i) Economic and noneconomic damages; or
3 (ii) \$250 against each defendant found liable under this section;
4 and
5 (b) Punitive damages.
6 (3) The court may award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to
7 the prevailing plaintiff in an action under this section.
8 (4) A civil action under this section:
9 (a) May be maintained in a court of limited jurisdiction if the
10 total damages claimed do not exceed the statutory limit for damages
11 that the court of limited jurisdiction may award; and
12 (b) Does not affect a right or remedy available under any other
13 law of this state.

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