

LC 106  
2026 Regular Session  
1/12/26 (JLM/ps)

# D R A F T

## SUMMARY

Digest: The Act changes a crime to include subjecting a public official to alarm by conveying a threat. The Act also says that a standing order on pretrial release does not affect how the court makes the release decision. The Act goes into effect when the Governor signs it. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.6).

Expands the crime of aggravated harassment to include threats concerning public officials in specified circumstances. Punishes by a maximum of five years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$125,000, or both.

Provides that standing pretrial release orders do not affect the authority of a magistrate to consider the primary and secondary release criteria when making a release decision.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to public safety; creating new provisions; amending ORS 135.230,  
3 135.233 and 166.070; and declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

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## 6 THREATS TO PUBLIC OFFICIALS

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8 **SECTION 1.** ORS 166.070 is amended to read:

9 166.070. (1) A person commits the crime of aggravated harassment if the  
10 person, knowing that the other person is a:

11 (a) Staff member, knowingly propels saliva, blood, urine, semen, feces or  
12 other dangerous substance at the staff member while the staff member is  
13 acting in the course of official duty or as a result of the staff member's of-  
14 ficial duties;

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.  
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       (b) Public safety officer, knowingly propels blood, urine, semen or feces  
2 at the public safety officer while the public safety officer is acting in the  
3 course of official duty or as a result of the public safety officer's official  
4 duties; [or]

5       (c) Public safety officer, intentionally propels saliva at the public safety  
6 officer, and the saliva comes into physical contact with the public safety  
7 officer, while the public safety officer is acting in the course of official duty  
8 or as a result of the public safety officer's official duties[.]; or

9       **(d) Public official, intentionally subjects the public official to alarm**  
10 **by conveying to the public official, or to any member of the public**  
11 **official's family, a telephonic, electronic or written threat to inflict**  
12 **serious physical injury on the public official or family member, the**  
13 **threat would reasonably be expected to cause alarm, and the person**  
14 **conveyed the threat because of:**

15       **(A) The performance or nonperformance of a public duty of the**  
16 **public official;**

17       **(B) The status or position of the public official; or**

18       **(C) Any other factor related to the public official's office or duties.**

19       (2) Aggravated harassment is a Class C felony. When a person is con-  
20 victed of violating subsection (1)(a) of this section, in addition to any other  
21 sentence it may impose, the court shall impose a term of incarceration in a  
22 state correctional facility.

23       (3) As used in this section:

24       **(a) "Public official" means:**

25       **(A) A person who is elected or appointed, or who has filed the re-**  
26 **quired documents for nomination or election, to an office established,**  
27 **and the qualifications and duties of which are prescribed, by statute**  
28 **or the Oregon Constitution to perform a public duty for the state or**  
29 **any political subdivision of the state; and**

30       **(B) An assistant or deputy district attorney, a person serving as a**  
31 **prosecutor for a city or county, an assistant attorney general, an ad-**

1 ministrative law judge and a judge serving upon appointment as a  
2 senior judge or a judge pro tempore.

[(a)] (b) "Public safety officer" means an emergency medical services provider as defined in ORS 682.025, a regulatory specialist as defined in ORS 471.001 or a fire service professional, a parole and probation officer or a police officer as those terms are defined in ORS 181A.355.

7 [(b)] (c) "Staff member" has the meaning given that term in ORS 163.165.

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## PRETRIAL RELEASE

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**11 SECTION 2.** ORS 135.233 is amended to read:

12       135.233. (1) The presiding judge of a judicial district shall enter a standing  
13 pretrial release order specifying to the sheriff of the county, or to the entity  
14 supervising the local correctional facility responsible for pretrial incarceration  
15 within the judicial district, those persons and offenses:

16 (a) Subject to release on recognizance;

17 (b) Subject to release with special conditions as specified in the order;  
18 and

19 (c) That are not eligible for release until arraignment.

20 (2) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, with input from a criminal  
21 justice advisory committee appointed by the Chief Justice, shall establish  
22 release guidelines for the pretrial release orders described in this section to:

(a) Provide consistent release decision-making structure across the state;

24 (b) Reduce reliance on the use of security:

25 (c) Include provisions for victim notification and input; and

26 (d) Balance the rights of the defendant and presumption of pretrial release  
27 against community and victim safety and the risk of failure to appear.

28       (3) Any standing pretrial release order entered under subsection (1)  
29 of this section does not affect the authority of a magistrate to make  
30 a release decision under ORS 135.245 and to consider, when making the  
31 release decision, the primary and secondary release criteria, including

1 **community safety and the risk of failure to appear by the defendant.**

2 **SECTION 3.** ORS 135.230 is amended to read:

3 135.230. As used in ORS 135.230 to 135.290, unless the context requires  
4 otherwise:

5 (1) "Abuse" means:

6 (a) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing  
7 physical injury;

8 (b) Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly placing another in fear of im-  
9 minent serious physical injury; or

10 (c) Committing sexual abuse in any degree as defined in ORS 163.415,  
11 163.425 and 163.427.

12 (2) "Conditional release" means a nonsecurity release which imposes reg-  
13 ulations on the activities and associations of the defendant.

14 (3) "Domestic violence" means abuse between family or household mem-  
15 bers.

16 (4) "Family or household members" means any of the following:

17 (a) Spouses.

18 (b) Former spouses.

19 (c) Adult persons related by blood or marriage.

20 (d) Persons cohabiting with each other.

21 (e) Persons who have cohabited with each other or who have been in-  
22 volved in a sexually intimate relationship.

23 (f) Unmarried parents of a minor child.

24 (5) "Magistrate" has the meaning provided for this term in ORS 133.030.

25 (6) "Personal recognizance" means the release of a defendant upon the  
26 promise of the defendant to appear in court at all appropriate times.

27 (7) "Primary release criteria" includes the following:

28 (a) The reasonable protection of the victim or public;

29 (b) The nature of the current charge;

30 (c) The defendant's prior criminal record, if any, and, if the defendant  
31 previously has been released pending trial, whether the defendant appeared

1 as required;

2 (d) Any facts indicating the possibility of violations of law if the defendant  
3 is released without regulations; and

4 (e) Any other facts tending to indicate [*that*] **whether** the defendant is  
5 likely to appear **as required**.

6 (8) "Release" means temporary or partial freedom of a defendant from  
7 lawful custody before judgment of conviction or after judgment of conviction  
8 if defendant has appealed.

9 (9) "Release agreement" means a sworn writing by the defendant stating  
10 the terms of the release and, if applicable, the amount of security.

11 (10) "Release decision" means a determination by a magistrate, using  
12 primary and secondary release criteria, which establishes the form of the  
13 release most likely to ensure the safety of the public and the victim, the  
14 defendant's court appearance and that the defendant does not engage in do-  
15 mestic violence while on release.

16 (11) "Secondary release criteria" includes the following:

17 (a) The defendant's employment status and history and financial condi-  
18 tion;

19 (b) The nature and extent of the family relationships of the defendant;

20 (c) The past and present residences of the defendant;

21 (d) Names of persons who agree to assist the defendant in attending court  
22 at the proper time; and

23 (e) Any facts tending to indicate that the defendant has strong ties to the  
24 community.

25 (12) "Security release" means a release conditioned on a promise to ap-  
26 pear in court at all appropriate times which is secured by cash, stocks, bonds  
27 or real property.

28 (13) "Surety" is one who executes a security release and binds oneself to  
29 pay the security amount if the defendant fails to comply with the release  
30 agreement.

## CAPTIONS

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3        **SECTION 4.** The unit captions used in this 2026 Act are provided  
4 only for the convenience of the reader and do not become part of the  
5 statutory law of this state or express any legislative intent in the  
6 enactment of this 2026 Act.

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## **EMERGENCY CLAUSE**

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10 **SECTION 5.** This 2026 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-  
11 ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-  
12 clared to exist, and this 2026 Act takes effect on its passage.

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