

FINAL BILL REPORT

HB 1689

Synopsis as Enacted

C 457 L 93

Brief Description: Making it a misdemeanor to impersonate a law enforcement officer.

By Representatives Chappell, Springer, Appelwick, Riley, Campbell, Brough, Basich, J. Kohl and Johanson.

House Committee on Judiciary
Senate Committee on Law & Justice

Background: A person can commit the crime of criminal impersonation in either of two ways. First, the crime may be committed by assuming a false identity and acting with an unlawful purpose. Second, the crime may be committed by pretending to be a representative of another person and acting with an unlawful purpose. The crime is a gross misdemeanor.

Summary: The crime of criminal impersonation is expanded. The existing crime is designated first-degree criminal impersonation.

A new crime of second-degree criminal impersonation is created. The crime is committed by claiming to be, or creating the impression that one is, a law enforcement officer and, under circumstances not amounting to the first-degree crime, acting with the intent to convey the impression that one is acting in an official capacity. The impression created must be one that would cause a reasonable person to believe that the defendant is a law enforcement officer.

The second-degree crime is a misdemeanor.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	98	0	
Senate	44	0	(Senate amended)
House	97	0	(House concurred)

Effective: July 25, 1993