AN ACT

To amend chapter 574, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the offense of unlawful traffic interference, with penalty provisions.

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

Section A. Chapter 574, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 574.045, to read as follows:

574.045. 1. As used in the section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Interstate highway", a highway located in this state that is included in the national system of interstate highways, as officially designated or as may be hereafter designated by the state highways and transportation commission within the Missouri department of transportation and approved by the United States Secretary of Transportation;

(2) "Unlawful assembly", two or more persons who meet for the purpose of violating any criminal laws of this state or the United States.

2. A person commits the offense of unlawful traffic interference if, with intention to impede vehicular traffic, the person walks, stands, sits, lies, or places an object in such a manner as to block passage by a vehicle on any public street, highway, or interstate highway. This section shall not apply to the blocking of passage by any person who has permission to do so from a government authority, who is a law enforcement officer, or who does so to direct traffic away from hazardous road conditions, an obstacle, or a scene of an accident.

3. The offense of unlawful traffic interference on a public street or highway, except an interstate highway, is a class A misdemeanor for the first violation. Any second or
subsequent violation that occurs on a public street or highway, except an interstate highway, is a class E felony.

4. The offense of unlawful traffic interference on an interstate highway is a class E felony.

5. The offense of unlawful traffic interference on any public street, highway, or interstate highway while part of an unlawful assembly is a class D felony.