

# HOUSE BILL NO. 286

## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BLAND MANLOVE.

0343H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 537, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a civil action for summoning a police officer.

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

Section A. Chapter 537, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 537.562, to read as follows:

**537.562. 1. A person may bring a civil action for damages against any person who knowingly causes a police officer to arrive at a location to contact another person with the intent to:**

**(1) Infringe on the other person's rights under the Missouri or United States Constitution;**

**(2) Unlawfully discriminate against the other person;**

**(3) Cause the other person to feel harassed, humiliated, or embarrassed;**

**(4) Cause the other person to be expelled from a place in which the other person is lawfully located; or**

**(5) Damage the other person's:**

**(a) Reputation or standing within the community; or**

**(b) Financial, economic, consumer, or business prospects or interests.**

**2. Upon prevailing in an action under this section, the plaintiff may recover:**

**(1) The greater of:**

**(a) Special and general damages, including damages for emotional distress; or**

**(b) Statutory damages of two hundred fifty dollars against each defendant found liable under this section; and**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18           **(2) Punitive damages.**

19           **3. The court may award reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing plaintiff in an**  
20 **action under this section.**

21           **4. A civil action under this section:**

22           **(1) May be brought in small claims court if the total damages do not exceed the**  
23 **jurisdictional amount allowed under chapter 482;**

24           **(2) Does not affect a right or remedy available under any other law of this state.**

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