

No. 1997-50

AN ACT

HB 41

Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for facsimile bombs.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

§ 5516. Facsimile bombs.

(a) Offense defined.—A person commits an offense if the person knowingly manufactures, sells, purchases, transports or causes another to transport, possesses or uses a facsimile bomb with the intent to do any of the following:

(1) Terrify, intimidate, threaten or harass an individual.

(2) Cause alarm or reaction on the part of any of the following:

(i) A public or volunteer organization that deals with emergencies involving danger to life or property.

(ii) A law enforcement organization.

(b) Grading.—An offense under this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(c) Definition.—As used in this section, the term “facsimile bomb” means a device which:

(1) resembles in appearance and external qualities an explosive or incendiary device; but

(2) does not have the capability to cause an explosion or fire.

Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

APPROVED—The 31st day of October, A.D. 1997.

THOMAS J. RIDGE