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**HOUSE BILL 1826**

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**State of Washington 67th Legislature 2022 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Young and Graham

AN ACT Relating to creating the crime of interfering with a firefighter or emergency medical services provider; adding a new section to chapter 9A.84 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 9A.84 RCW to read as follows:

(1) A person is guilty of interfering with a firefighter or emergency medical services provider if the person, with knowledge that another person is a firefighter or emergency medical services provider, intentionally prevents or attempts to prevent that firefighter or emergency medical services provider from performing his or her official duties.

(2) Interfering with a firefighter or emergency medical services provider is a gross misdemeanor.

(3) As used in this section:

(a) "Emergency medical services provider" includes a person who is an emergency medical technician or a first responder as defined in RCW 18.73.030.

(b) "Firefighter" includes a paid or volunteer firefighter or other employee of a fire department, county fire marshal's office, county fire prevention bureau, or fire protection district.

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