

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN

H.P. 19 - L.D. 18

An Act To Ensure Proper Prosecution of Crimes Involving Domestic Violence and Enhance Protection of Victims of Domestic Violence

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, to ensure the necessary and proper prosecution of crimes in the State involving domestic violence and to enhance the protection of victims of domestic violence from their abusers, this legislation must take effect immediately; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §207-A, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2017, c. 432, Pt. D, §1, is further amended to read:

B. The person violates paragraph A and at the time of the offense:

- (1) Has one or more prior convictions for violating paragraph A or for violating section ~~208-D, 208-E, 208-F,~~ 209-A, 210-B, 210-C or 211-A or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in paragraph A or in section ~~208-D, 208-E, 208-F,~~ 209-A, 210-B, 210-C or 211-A in another jurisdiction;
- (2) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 in another jurisdiction;
- (3) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 15, section 1092, subsection 1, paragraph B when the condition of release violated is specified in Title 15, section 1026, subsection 3, paragraph A, subparagraph (5) or (8) when

the alleged victim in the case for which the defendant was on bail was a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4; or

(4) Has one or more prior convictions for violating section 208, 208-B or 208-C, and the State had pled and proved that the victim of the applicable prior conviction was a family or household member, as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4, or has one or more prior convictions in another jurisdiction for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in section 208, 208-B or 208-C and it had been pled and proved that the victim was a family or household member.

Violation of this paragraph is a Class C crime.

Sec. 2. 17-A MRSA §§208-D, 208-E and 208-F are enacted to read:

§208-D. Domestic violence aggravated assault

1. A person is guilty of domestic violence aggravated assault if that person:

A. Violates section 208, subsection 1, paragraph A and the victim is a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4. Violation of this paragraph is a Class B crime;

B. Violates section 208, subsection 1, paragraph A-1 and the victim is a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4. Violation of this paragraph is a Class A crime;

C. Violates section 208, subsection 1, paragraph B and the victim is a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4. Violation of this paragraph is a Class B crime; or

D. Violates section 208, subsection 1, paragraph C and the victim is a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4. Violation of this paragraph is a Class B crime.

§208-E. Domestic violence elevated aggravated assault

1. A person is guilty of domestic violence elevated aggravated assault if:

A. The person violates section 208-B; and

B. The victim is a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4.

2. Violation of this section is a Class A crime.

§208-F. Domestic violence elevated aggravated assault on pregnant person

1. A person is guilty of domestic violence elevated aggravated assault on a pregnant person if:

A. The person violates section 208-C; and

B. The victim is a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4.

2. Violation of this section is a Class A crime.

Sec. 3. 17-A MRSA §209-A, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2017, c. 432, Pt. D, §2, is further amended to read:

B. The person violates paragraph A and at the time of the offense:

(1) Has one or more prior convictions for violating paragraph A or for violating section 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 210-B, 210-C or 211-A or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in paragraph A or in section 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 210-B, 210-C or 211-A in another jurisdiction;

(2) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 in another jurisdiction;

(3) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 15, section 1092, subsection 1, paragraph B when the condition of release violated is specified in Title 15, section 1026, subsection 3, paragraph A, subparagraph (5) or (8) when the alleged victim in the case for which the defendant was on bail was a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4; or

(4) Has one or more prior convictions for violating section 208, 208-B or 208-C, and the State had pled and proved that the victim of the applicable prior conviction was a family or household member, as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4, or has one or more prior convictions in another jurisdiction for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in section 208, 208-B or 208-C and it had been pled and proved that the victim was a family or household member.

Violation of this paragraph is a Class C crime.

Sec. 4. 17-A MRSA §210-B, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2017, c. 432, Pt. D, §3, is further amended to read:

B. The person violates paragraph A and at the time of the offense:

(1) Has one or more prior convictions for violating paragraph A or for violating section 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 209-A, 210-C or 211-A or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in paragraph A or in section 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 209-A, 210-C or 211-A in another jurisdiction;

(2) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 in another jurisdiction;

(3) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 15, section 1092, subsection 1, paragraph B when the condition of release violated is specified in Title 15, section 1026, subsection 3, paragraph A, subparagraph (5) or (8) when the alleged victim in the case for which the defendant was on bail was a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4; or

(4) Has one or more prior convictions for violating section 208, 208-B or 208-C, and the State had pled and proved that the victim of the applicable prior conviction was a family or household member, as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4, or has one or more prior convictions in another jurisdiction for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in section 208, 208-B or 208-C and it had been pled and proved that the victim was a family or household member.

Violation of this paragraph is a Class C crime.

Sec. 5. 17-A MRSA §210-C, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2017, c. 432, Pt. D, §4, is further amended to read:

B. The person violates paragraph A and at the time of the offense:

(1) Has one or more prior convictions for violating paragraph A or for violating section 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 209-A, 210-B or 211-A or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in paragraph A or in section 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 209-A, 210-B or 211-A in another jurisdiction;

(2) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 in another jurisdiction;

(3) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 15, section 1092, subsection 1, paragraph B when the condition of release violated is specified in Title 15, section 1026, subsection 3, paragraph A, subparagraph (5) or (8) when the alleged victim in the case for which the defendant was on bail was a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4; or

(4) Has one or more prior convictions for violating section 208, 208-B or 208-C, and the State had pled and proved that the victim of the applicable prior conviction was a family or household member, as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4, or has one or more prior convictions in another jurisdiction for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in section 208, 208-B or 208-C and it had been pled and proved that the victim was a family or household member.

Violation of this paragraph is a Class C crime.

Sec. 6. 17-A MRSA §211-A, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2017, c. 432, Pt. D, §5, is further amended to read:

B. The person violates paragraph A and at the time of the offense:

(1) Has one or more prior convictions for violating paragraph A or for violating section 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 209-A, 210-B or 210-C or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in paragraph A or in section 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 209-A, 210-B or 210-C in another jurisdiction;

(2) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 or one or more prior convictions for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in Title 19-A, section 4011, subsection 1 in another jurisdiction;

(3) Has one or more prior convictions for violating Title 15, section 1092, subsection 1, paragraph B when the condition of release violated is specified in Title 15, section 1026, subsection 3, paragraph A, subparagraph (5) or (8) when the alleged victim in the case for which the defendant was on bail was a family or household member as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4; or

(4) Has one or more prior convictions for violating section 208, 208-B or 208-C, and the State had pled and proved that the victim of the applicable prior conviction was a family or household member, as defined in Title 19-A, section 4002, subsection 4, or has one or more prior convictions in another jurisdiction for engaging in conduct substantially similar to that contained in section 208, 208-B or 208-C and it had been pled and proved that the victim was a family or household member.

Violation of this paragraph is a Class C crime.

Sec. 7. 19-A MRSA §4002, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2015, c. 296, Pt. C, §24 and affected by Pt. D, §1, is further amended to read:

4. Family or household members. "Family or household members" means spouses or domestic partners or former spouses or former domestic partners, individuals presently or formerly living together as spouses, parents of the same child, adult household members related by consanguinity or affinity or minor children of a household member when the defendant is an adult household member and, for the purposes of Title 15, section 1023, subsection 4, paragraph B-1 and Title 15, section 1094-B, this chapter and Title 17-A, sections 15, 207-A, 208-D, 208-E, 208-F, 209-A, 210-B, 210-C, 211-A, 1201, 1202 and 1253 only, includes individuals presently or formerly living together and individuals who are or were sexual partners. Holding oneself out to be a spouse is not necessary to constitute "living as spouses." For purposes of this subsection, "domestic partners" means 2 unmarried adults who are domiciled together under long-term arrangements that evidence a commitment to remain responsible indefinitely for each other's welfare.

Sec. 8. 19-A MRSA §4011, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Repeat violations. A person who commits a violation under subsection 1 and has 2 or more prior convictions under subsection 1 or 2 or more convictions for engaging in substantially similar conduct in another jurisdiction commits a Class C crime. Title 17-A, section 9-A governs the use of prior convictions when determining a sentence.

Sec. 9. 19-A MRSA §4012, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. B, §2 and affected by Pt. E, §2, is amended to read:

5. Arrest in certain situations. When a law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that there has been a criminal violation under section 4011 of a court-approved consent agreement or a protection order issued pursuant to this chapter or Title 15, chapter 12-A, or that a violation of Title 17-A, section ~~208~~ 208-D, 208-E, 208-F ~~has occurred between members of the same family or household~~ has occurred, that enforcement officer shall arrest and take into custody the alleged offender.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.