



HOUSE BILL 597: Willful Injury of Person/Trap in Public Park.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House Judiciary II	Date:	April 25, 2017
Introduced by:	Reps. Bradford, Bert Jones, Zachary, Clampitt	Prepared by:	Susan Sitze
Analysis of:	First Edition		Jessica Sammons Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: House Bill 597 would create the criminal offense of malicious injury through use of a trap in public parks.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 597 would create a new criminal offense for maliciously injuring another through the use of a trap in a public park.

- A *public park* would include public parks, public recreational areas, walking trails, greenways, horse trails, and State forests.
- A *trap* would be defined as any object or device designed or placed in a manner to cause bodily injury upon contact with the object or device, and would include all of the following:
 - Guns, ammunition, or explosive devices attached to trip wires or other triggering mechanisms.
 - Sharpened stakes, nails, or spikes.
 - Electrical devices.
 - Lines or wires with hooks or other sharp objects attached.
 - Devices that produce toxic fumes or gases.

Willfully and maliciously setting a trap in a public park for the purpose of injuring another person, or willfully and maliciously aiding or procuring the setting of a trap in a public park for the purpose of injuring another person, would be a Class A1 misdemeanor.

A violation of the offense that inflicts physical injury on another person would be a Class H felony.

A violation of the offense that inflicts serious injury on another person would be a Class E felony.

A person convicted of any violation of this offense in which the trap was camouflaged or concealed would be guilty of an offense one class higher than the offense committed. A Class A1 misdemeanor would be enhanced to a Class I felony.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective December 1, 2017, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

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Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
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