Session of 1997 No. 1997-50

HB 41

AN ACT

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