

House Bill 422

By: Representative Hammontree of the 4th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to obstruction of public administration and related offenses, so as to make it unlawful to obstruct or hinder a person from making an emergency telephone call; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to obstruction of public administration and related offenses, is amended by striking in its entirety Code Section 16-10-24.3, relating to the offense of obstructing or hindering persons making emergency telephone calls, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 16-10-24.3 to read as follows:

"16-10-24.3.

Any person who verbally or physically obstructs, prevents, or hinders another person ~~with intent to cause or allow physical harm or injury to another person~~ from making or completing a 911 telephone call or a call to any law enforcement agency to request police protection or to report the commission of a crime is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, or both."

SECTION 2.

This Act shall become effective on the first day of the month following the month in which it is approved by the Governor or in which it becomes law without such approval.

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.