



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Bill Analysis

Jeff Hobday

H.B. 423

132nd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Lang and Seitz, Becker, Faber, Green, Riedel, Young

BILL SUMMARY

- Prohibits wearing a mask or disguise in order to purposely obstruct the execution of the law, intimidate a person who is performing a legal duty, or prevent a person from exercising rights granted by the Constitution or the laws of Ohio.
 - Classifies "masked intimidation" as a first degree misdemeanor.
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CONTENT AND OPERATION

Masked intimidation

The bill prohibits a person from wearing a mask or disguise in order to purposely do any of the following:

- (1) Obstruct the execution of the law;
- (2) Intimidate, hinder, or interrupt a person in the performance of the person's legal duty; or
- (3) Prevent a person from exercising the rights granted by the Constitution or the laws of Ohio.

The bill names the offense "masked intimidation" and classifies it as a first degree misdemeanor.¹ Existing law, unchanged by the bill, prohibits a person from uniting with two or more others to commit a misdemeanor while wearing white caps, masks, or

¹ R.C. 2917.14.

other disguise. A person who violates the existing prohibition is guilty of a fourth degree felony.²

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	11-21-17

² R.C. 3761.12 and 3761.99, not in the bill.

