

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
BILL SUMMARY**

BILL NO. H2060

TITLE: An Act relative to assault and battery against healthcare personnel, school officials, and first responders

SPONSOR: Rep. Steven Xiarhos

COSPONSORS: Rep. Francisco E. Paulino
Rep. Kelly W. Pease

HEARING DATE: May 6, 2025

PRIOR HISTORY: H1823 (2023-2024)

SENATE BILL: None

CURRENT LAW: Section 13A of Chapter 265 of the General Laws makes assault and battery a crime punishable by 2.5 years in a house of correction or a \$1,000 fine or if it causes serious bodily injury punishment may be elevated to 5 years in state prison.

Section 13D of Chapter 265 of the General Laws creates the crimes of assault and battery upon public employees, attempts to disarm a police officer, and assault and battery upon a police officer. The statute penalizes assault and battery upon any public employee when such person is engaged in the performance of their duties at the time of such assault and battery. The offense carries a sentence of between 90 days to 2.5 years' incarceration or and a fine of \$500 to \$5,000, or both.

BILL SUMMARY: Section 1 – Adds to Section 13A enhanced penalties for an assault and battery against school personnel, registered nurses, sports officials, and police dogs. The penalty is up to 5 years in state prison or up to 2.5 years in a HOC, or a fine of up to \$5,000, or by both a fine and incarceration.