



# LAWS OF ALASKA

1974

Source

SCSHB 794

Chapter No.

77

## AN ACT

Relating to the crime of extortion; and providing for an effective date.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

\* Section 1. AS 11.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

#### ARTICLE 4A. EXTORTION.

Sec. 11.20.345. EXTORTION. (a) A person is guilty of extortion if he obtains the property of a person by threatening to or suggesting that he or another may

(1) inflict bodily injury on anyone, except under circumstances constituting robbery, or commit any other criminal offense;

(2) accuse anyone of a criminal offense;

(3) expose confidential information or a secret, whether true or false, tending to subject a person to hatred, contempt or ridicule, or to impair his credit or business repute;

(4) take or withhold action as a public official, or cause a public official to take or withhold action;

(5) bring about or continue a strike, boycott or other collective unofficial action, if the property is not demanded or received for the benefit of the group in whose interest the person making the threat or suggestion purports to act;

(6) testify or provide information or withhold testimony or information with respect to a person's legal claim or defense; or

(7) inflict any other harm which would not benefit the person making the threat or suggestion.

(b) A person who is convicted of extortion is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by imprisonment for not more than five years, or by both.

(c) A threat or suggestion to perform any of the acts described in (a) of this section includes an offer to protect another from any harmful act when the offeror has no apparent means to provide the protection or where the price asked for rendering the protection service is grossly disproportionate to its cost to the offeror.

(d) It is a defense to prosecution based on (a)(2), (3) or (4) of this section that the property obtained by threat of accusation, exposure, lawsuit or other invocation of official action was honestly claimed as restitution or indemnification for harm done in the circumstances to which the accusation, exposure, lawsuit or other official action relates, or as compensation for property or lawful services.

\* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage and approval or on the day it becomes law without approval.