

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL CODE (ASSAULTS AGAINST HEALTH CARE WORKERS)

SUMMARY

This enactment amends the *Criminal Code* to require a court to consider the fact that the victim of an assault is a health care worker to be an aggravating circumstance for the purposes of sentencing.

1. The *Criminal Code* is amended by adding the following after section 269.01:

269.02 (1) When a court imposes a sentence for an offence referred to in paragraph 264.1(1)(a) or any of sections 266 to 269, it shall consider as an aggravating circumstance the fact that the victim of the offence was, at the time of the commission of the offence, a health care worker engaged in the performance of his or her duty.

(2) The following definitions applies in this section:

“health care worker” means a physician, intern, resident or other health care practitioner providing services to, or any individual employed by a hospital or health services provider.

“health services provider” includes a long-term care or nursing home, ambulance service, psychiatric facility, treatment clinic, community health centre, home care and community care provider, or private hospital.