

Committee on Judiciary

HB 65 — Civil Remedies for Terrorism

by Reps. Fischer, White, and others (SB 898 by Senators Simmons and Artiles)

The bill creates a civil cause of action for a person who is injured by an act of terrorism or by a violation of a law that facilitates or furthers an act of terrorism. A prevailing plaintiff is entitled to a minimum of \$1,000 in damages or three times the actual damages sustained, and reasonable attorney fees and court costs at the trial and appellate levels.

In contrast, a defendant is entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees and court costs at the trial and appellate levels if it is determined that the claimant raised a claim that is not supported by the facts or law.

Anyone who participates in the act of terrorism and is injured may not bring a claim under the cause of action authorized by the bill.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2017.

Vote: Senate 37-0; House 114-0