

REFERENCE TITLE: justification; criminal offenses

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2023

HB 2508

Introduced by
Representatives Contreras L: Payne

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 13-401, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO
JUSTIFICATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 13-401, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 13-401. Unavailability of justification defense;
5 justification as defense

6 A. Even though a person is justified under this chapter in
7 threatening or using physical force or deadly physical force against
8 another, if in doing so such person recklessly injures or kills an
9 innocent third person, the justification afforded by this chapter is
10 unavailable in a prosecution for the reckless injury or killing of the
11 innocent third person.

12 B. Except as provided in subsection A **OF THIS SECTION**,
13 justification, as ~~defined~~ **PRESCRIBED** in this chapter, is a defense in any
14 prosecution for ~~an~~ **A CRIMINAL** offense ~~pursuant to this title~~.