

An Act

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 599

By: Hamilton, Burns, Bullard,
Prieto, Deevers,
Standridge, McIntosh,
Grellner, Wingard, Hines,
Woods, Sacchieri, Murdock,
Bergstrom, Frix, Guthrie,
and Pederson of the Senate

and

Turner, Manger, Maynard,
Bashore, Wilk, Adams,
Pfeiffer, Banning, Eaves,
and Fetgatter of the House

An Act relating to crimes and punishments; amending 21 O.S. 2021, Section 843.5, as last amended by Section 2 of Enrolled Senate Bill No. 53 of the 1st Session of the 60th Oklahoma Legislature, which relates to child abuse; modifying scope of certain unlawful act; amending 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1123, as last amended by Section 33, Chapter 59, O.S.L. 2024 (21 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 1123), which relates to lewd or indecent acts to a child; modifying scope of punishment for certain crimes; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Child abuse punishments

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 843.5, as last amended by Section 2 of Enrolled Senate Bill No. 53 of the 1st Session of the 60th Oklahoma Legislature, is amended to read as follows:

Section 843.5. A. Any person who shall willfully or maliciously engage in child abuse, as defined in this section, shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment.

B. Any person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of a child who shall willfully or maliciously engage in enabling child abuse, as defined in this section, shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment.

C. Any person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of a child who shall willfully or maliciously engage in child neglect, as defined in this section, shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment.

D. Any parent or other person who shall willfully or maliciously engage in enabling child neglect shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment.

E. Any person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of a child who shall willfully or maliciously engage in child sexual abuse, as defined in this section, shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment.

(\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment, except as provided in Section 51.1a of this title or as otherwise provided in subsection F of this section for a child victim under twelve (12) years of age. Except for persons sentenced to life or life without parole, any person sentenced to imprisonment for two (2) years or more for a violation of this subsection shall be required to serve a term of post-imprisonment supervision pursuant to subparagraph f of paragraph 1 of subsection A of Section 991a of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes under conditions determined by the Department of Corrections. The jury shall be advised that the mandatory post-imprisonment supervision shall be in addition to the actual imprisonment.

F. Any person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of a child who shall willfully or maliciously engage in child sexual abuse, as defined in this section, to a child under twelve (12) years of age shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for not less than twenty-five (25) years nor more than life imprisonment, and by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

G. Any parent or other person who shall willfully or maliciously engage in enabling child sexual abuse shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment.

H. Any person who shall willfully or maliciously engage in child sexual exploitation, as defined in this section, shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment, except as provided in subsection I of this section for a child victim under twelve (12) years of age. Except for persons sentenced to life or life without parole, any person sentenced to imprisonment for two (2) years or more for a violation of this subsection shall be required to serve a term of post-imprisonment supervision

pursuant to subparagraph f of paragraph 1 of subsection A of Section 991a of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes under conditions determined by the Department of Corrections. The jury shall be advised that the mandatory post-imprisonment supervision shall be in addition to the actual imprisonment.

I. Any person who shall willfully or maliciously engage in child sexual exploitation, as defined in this section, of a child under twelve (12) years of age shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for not less than twenty-five (25) years nor more than life imprisonment, and by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

J. Any person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of a child who shall willfully or maliciously engage in enabling child sexual exploitation, as defined in this section, shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment.

K. ~~Notwithstanding~~ In addition to any other provision of punishment prescribed by law, any person convicted of forcible anal or oral sodomy, rape, or rape by instrumentation, ~~or lewd molestation~~ of a child under fourteen (14) years of age ~~subsequent to a previous conviction for any offense of forcible anal or oral sodomy, rape, rape by instrumentation, or lewd molestation of a child under fourteen (14) years of age~~ shall be punished eligible for punishment by death or by imprisonment for life without parole.

L. Provided, however, that nothing contained in this section shall prohibit any parent or guardian from using reasonable and ordinary force pursuant to Section 844 of this title.

M. Consent shall not be a defense for any violation provided for in this section.

N. Notwithstanding the age requirements of other statutes referenced within this section, this section shall apply to any child under eighteen (18) years of age.

0. As used in this section:

1. "Child abuse" means:

- a. the willful or malicious harm or threatened harm or failure to protect from harm or threatened harm to the health, safety, or welfare of a child under eighteen (18) years of age by a person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare, or
- b. the act of willfully or maliciously injuring, torturing, or maiming a child under eighteen (18) years of age by any person;

2. "Child neglect" means the willful or malicious neglect, as defined by Section 1-1-105 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes, of a child under eighteen (18) years of age by a person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare;

3. "Child sexual abuse" means the willful or malicious sexual abuse of a child under eighteen (18) years of age by a person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare and includes, but is not limited to:

- a. sexual intercourse,
- b. penetration of the vagina or anus, however slight, by an inanimate object or any part of the human body not amounting to sexual intercourse,
- c. sodomy,
- d. incest, or
- e. a lewd act or proposal, as defined in this section;

4. "Child sexual exploitation" means the willful or malicious sexual exploitation of a child under eighteen (18) years of age by another and includes, but is not limited to:

- a. human trafficking, as provided for in Section 748 of this title, if the offense involved child trafficking for commercial sex,
- b. trafficking in children, as provided for in Section 866 of this title, if the offense was committed for the sexual gratification of any person,
- c. procuring or causing the participation of a minor in child sexual abuse material, as provided for in Section 1021.2 of this title,
- d. purchase, procurement, or possession of child sexual abuse material, as provided for in Section 1024.2 of this title,
- e. engaging in or soliciting prostitution, as provided for in Section 1029 of this title, if the offense involved child sex trafficking,
- f. publication, distribution, or participation in the preparation of obscene material, as provided for in Section 1040.8 of this title, if the offense involved child sexual abuse material,
- g. aggravated possession of child sexual abuse material, as provided for in Section 1040.12a of this title,
- h. sale or distribution of obscene material, as provided for in Section 1040.13 of this title,
- i. soliciting sexual conduct or communication with a minor by use of technology, as provided for in Section 1040.13a of this title,
- j. offering or transporting a child for purposes of child sex trafficking, as provided for in Section 1087 of this title, and
- k. child sex trafficking, as provided for in Section 1088 of this title;

5. "Enabling child abuse" means the causing, procuring, or permitting of child abuse by a person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare;

6. "Enabling child neglect" means the causing, procuring, or permitting of child neglect by a person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare;

7. "Enabling child sexual abuse" means the causing, procuring, or permitting of child sexual abuse by a person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare;

8. "Enabling child sexual exploitation" means the causing, procuring, or permitting of child sexual exploitation by a person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare;

9. "Incest" means marrying, committing adultery, or fornicating with a child by a person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of a child;

10. "Lewd act or proposal" means:

- a. making any oral, written, or electronic or computer-generated lewd or indecent proposal to a child for the child to have unlawful sexual relations or sexual intercourse with any person,
- b. looking upon, touching, mauling, or feeling the body or private parts of a child in a lewd or lascivious manner or for the purpose of sexual gratification,
- c. asking, inviting, enticing, or persuading any child to go alone with any person to a secluded, remote, or secret place for a lewd or lascivious purpose,
- d. urinating or defecating upon a child or causing, forcing, or requiring a child to defecate or urinate upon the body or private parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification,
- e. ejaculating upon or in the presence of a child,

- f. causing, exposing, forcing, or requiring a child to look upon the body or private parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification,
- g. causing, forcing, or requiring any child to view any obscene materials, child sexual abuse material or materials deemed harmful to minors as such terms are defined in Sections 1024.1 and 1040.75 of this title,
- h. causing, exposing, forcing, or requiring a child to look upon sexual acts performed in the presence of the child for the purpose of sexual gratification, or
- i. causing, forcing, or requiring a child to touch or feel the body or private parts of the child or another person for the purpose of sexual gratification;

11. "Permit" means to authorize or allow for the care of a child by an individual when the person authorizing or allowing such care knows or reasonably should know that the child will be placed at risk of the conduct or harm proscribed by this section;

12. "Person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare" for purposes of this section shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. the parent of the child,
- b. the legal guardian of the child,
- c. the custodian of the child,
- d. the foster parent of the child,
- e. a person eighteen (18) years of age or older with whom the parent of the child cohabitates, who is at least three (3) years older than the child,
- f. any other person eighteen (18) years of age or older residing in the home of the child, who is at least three (3) years older than the child,

- g. an owner, operator, agent, employee, or volunteer of a public or private residential home, institution, facility, or day treatment program, as defined in Section 175.20 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes, that the child attended,
- h. an owner, operator, agent, employee, or volunteer of a child care facility, as defined in Section 402 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes, that the child attended,
- i. an intimate partner of the parent of the child, as defined in Section 60.1 of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or
- j. a person who has voluntarily accepted responsibility for the care or supervision of a child;

13. "Sexual intercourse" means the actual penetration, however slight, of the vagina or anus by the penis; and

14. "Sodomy" means:

- a. penetration, however slight, of the mouth of the child by a penis,
- b. penetration, however slight, of the vagina of a person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare, by the mouth of a child,
- c. penetration, however slight, of the mouth of the person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare by the penis of the child, or
- d. penetration, however slight, of the vagina of the child by the mouth of the person responsible for a child's health, safety, or welfare.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1123, as last amended by Section 33, Chapter 59, O.S.L. 2024 (21 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 1123), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1123. A. It is a felony for any person to knowingly and intentionally:

1. Make any oral, written or electronically or computer-generated lewd or indecent proposal to any child under sixteen (16) years of age, or other individual the person believes to be a child under sixteen (16) years of age, for the child to have unlawful sexual relations or sexual intercourse with any person;

2. Look upon, touch, maul, or feel the body or private parts of any child under sixteen (16) years of age in any lewd or lascivious manner by any acts against public decency and morality, as defined by law;

3. Ask, invite, entice, or persuade any child under sixteen (16) years of age, or other individual the person believes to be a child under sixteen (16) years of age, to go alone with any person to a secluded, remote, or secret place, with the unlawful and willful intent and purpose then and there to commit any crime against public decency and morality, as defined by law, with the child;

4. In any manner lewdly or lasciviously look upon, touch, maul, or feel the body or private parts of any child under sixteen (16) years of age in any indecent manner or in any manner relating to sexual matters or sexual interest; or

5. In a lewd and lascivious manner and for the purpose of sexual gratification:

- a. urinate or defecate upon a child under sixteen (16) years of age, or force or require a child to defecate or urinate upon the body or private parts of another, or for the purpose of sexual gratification,
- b. ejaculate upon or in the presence of a child,
- c. cause, expose, force or require a child to look upon the body or private parts of another person,
- d. force or require any child under sixteen (16) years of age or other individual the person believes to be a

child under sixteen (16) years of age, to view any obscene materials, child sexual abuse material or materials deemed harmful to minors as such terms are defined by Sections 1024.1 and 1040.75 of this title,

- e. cause, expose, force or require a child to look upon sexual acts performed in the presence of the child, or
- f. force or require a child to touch or feel the body or private parts of the child or another person.

Any person convicted of any violation of this subsection shall be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for not less than three (3) years nor more than twenty (20) years, except when the child is under twelve (12) years of age at the time the offense is committed, and in such case the person shall, upon conviction, be punished by death or by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for a term of not less than ~~twenty-five (25)~~ ten (10) years, life, or life without parole. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply unless the accused is at least three (3) years older than the victim, except when accomplished by the use of force or fear. Except as provided in Section 51.1a of this title, any person convicted of a second or subsequent violation of this subsection shall be guilty of a felony punishable as provided in this subsection and shall not be eligible for probation, suspended or deferred sentence. Except as provided in Section 51.1a of this title, any person convicted of a third or subsequent violation of this subsection shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for a term of life or life without parole, in the discretion of the jury, or in case the jury fails or refuses to fix punishment then the same shall be pronounced by the court. Any person convicted of a violation of this subsection after having been twice convicted of a violation of subsection A of Section 1114 of this title, Section 888 of this title, sexual abuse of a child pursuant to Section 843.5 of this title, or of any attempt to commit any of these offenses or any combination of convictions pursuant to these sections shall be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for a term of life or life without parole.

B. No person shall commit sexual battery on any other person. "Sexual battery" shall mean the intentional touching, mauling or feeling of the body or private parts of any person sixteen (16) years of age or older, in a lewd and lascivious manner:

1. Without the consent of that person;

2. When committed by a state, county, municipal or political subdivision employee or a contractor or an employee of a contractor of the state, a county, a municipality or political subdivision of this state upon a person who is under the legal custody, supervision or authority of a state agency, a county, a municipality or a political subdivision of this state, or the subcontractor or employee of a subcontractor of the contractor of the state or federal government, a county, a municipality or a political subdivision of this state;

3. When committed upon a person who is at least sixteen (16) years of age and is less than twenty (20) years of age and is a student, or in the legal custody or supervision of any public or private elementary or secondary school, or technology center school, by a person who is eighteen (18) years of age or older and is an employee of a school system;

4. When committed upon a person who is nineteen (19) years of age or younger and is in the legal custody of a state agency, federal agency or a tribal court, by a foster parent or foster parent applicant; or

5. When the victim is a student at a secondary school, is concurrently enrolled at an institution of higher education, and engages in acts pursuant to this subsection with a perpetrator who is an employee of the institution of higher education of which the student is enrolled.

As used in this subsection, "employee of an institution of higher education" means faculty, adjunct faculty, instructors, volunteers, or an employee of a business contracting with an institution of higher education who may exercise, at any time, institutional authority over the victim. Employee of an institution of higher education shall not include an enrolled student who is not more than three (3) years of age or older than the concurrently

enrolled student and who is employed or volunteering, in any capacity, for the institution of higher education.

As used in this subsection, "employee of a school system" means a teacher, principal or other duly appointed person employed by a school system or an employee of a firm contracting with a school system.

C. No person shall in any manner lewdly or lasciviously:

1. Look upon, touch, maul, or feel the body or private parts of any human corpse in any indecent manner relating to sexual matters or sexual interest; or

2. Urinate, defecate or ejaculate upon any human corpse.

D. Any person convicted of a violation of subsection B or C of this section shall be deemed guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for not more than ten (10) years.

E. The fact that an undercover operative or law enforcement officer was involved in the detection and investigation of an offense pursuant to this section shall not constitute a defense to a prosecution under this section.

F. Except for persons sentenced to life or life without parole, any person sentenced to imprisonment for two (2) years or more for a violation of this section shall be required to serve a term of post-imprisonment supervision pursuant to subparagraph f of paragraph 1 of subsection A of Section 991a of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes under conditions determined by the Department of Corrections. The jury shall be advised that the mandatory post-imprisonment supervision shall be in addition to the actual imprisonment.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

Passed the Senate the 15th day of May, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 28th day of April, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____