

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 1072

By: Jett

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to child grooming; amending 21 O.S. 2021, Section 843.5, which relates to child abuse and child sexual exploitation; creating certain felony; providing certain definition; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 843.5, 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 of 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

1 abuse, as defined in this section, shall, upon conviction, be
2 punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of
3 Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a
4 county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine of not less
5 than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand
6 Dollars (\$5,000.00) or both such fine and imprisonment.

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

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

22 E. Any person responsible for the health, safety or welfare of
23 a child who shall willfully or maliciously engage in child sexual
24 abuse, as defined in this section, shall, upon conviction, be

1 punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of
2 Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a
3 county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine of not less
4 than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand
5 Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment, except as
6 provided in Section 51.1a of this title or as otherwise provided in
7 subsection F of this section for a child victim under twelve (12)
8 years of age. Except for persons sentenced to life or life without
9 parole, any person sentenced to imprisonment for two (2) years or
10 more for a violation of this subsection shall be required to serve a
11 term of post-imprisonment supervision pursuant to subparagraph f of
12 paragraph 1 of subsection A of Section 991a of Title 22 of the
13 Oklahoma Statutes under conditions determined by the Department of
14 Corrections. The jury shall be advised that the mandatory post-
15 imprisonment supervision shall be in addition to the actual
16 imprisonment.

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

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

9 H. Any person who shall willfully or maliciously engage in
10 child sexual exploitation, as defined in this section, shall, upon
11 conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the
12 Department of Corrections not exceeding life imprisonment, or by
13 imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a
14 fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than
15 Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both such fine and
16 imprisonment except as provided in subsection I of this section for
17 a child victim under twelve (12) years of age. Except for persons
18 sentenced to life or life without parole, any person sentenced to
19 imprisonment for two (2) years or more for a violation of this
20 subsection shall be required to serve a term of post-imprisonment
21 supervision pursuant to subparagraph f of paragraph 1 of subsection
22 A of Section 991a of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes under
23 conditions determined by the Department of Corrections. The jury
24

1 shall be advised that the mandatory post-imprisonment supervision
2 shall be in addition to the actual imprisonment.

3 I. Any person who shall willfully or maliciously engage in
4 child sexual exploitation, as defined in this section, of a child
5 under twelve (12) years of age shall, upon conviction, be punished
6 by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for
7 not less than twenty-five (25) years nor more than life
8 imprisonment, and by a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars
9 (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

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

19 K. Any person responsible for the health, safety, or welfare of
20 a child who shall willfully or maliciously engage in grooming, as
21 defined in this section, shall, upon conviction, be punished by
22 imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections not
23 exceeding life imprisonment, or by imprisonment in a county jail not
24 exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not less than Five Hundred

1 Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00),
2 or both such fine and imprisonment.

3 L. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person
4 convicted of forcible anal or oral sodomy, rape, rape by
5 instrumentation, or lewd molestation of a child under fourteen (14)
6 years of age subsequent to a previous conviction for any offense of
7 forcible anal or oral sodomy, rape, rape by instrumentation, or lewd
8 molestation of a child under fourteen (14) years of age shall be
9 punished by death or by imprisonment for life without parole.

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

13 ~~M.~~ N. Consent shall not be a defense for any violation provided
14 for in this section.

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

18 ~~O.~~ P. As used in this section:

19 1. "Child abuse" means:

- 20 a. the willful or malicious harm or threatened harm or
21 failure to protect from harm or threatened harm to the
22 health, safety or welfare of a child under eighteen
23 (18) years of age by a person responsible for a
24 child's health, safety or welfare, or

1 b. the act of willfully or maliciously injuring,
2 torturing or maiming a child under eighteen (18) years
3 of age by any person;

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

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

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

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

- 22 a. human trafficking, as provided for in Section 748 of
23 this title, if the offense involved child trafficking
24 for commercial sex,

- 1 b. trafficking in children, as provided for in Section
2 866 of this title, if the offense was committed for
3 the sexual gratification of any person,
4 c. procuring or causing the participation of a minor in
5 child pornography, as provided for in Section 1021.2
6 of this title,
7 d. purchase, procurement or possession of child
8 pornography, as provided for in Section 1024.2 of this
9 title,
10 e. engaging in or soliciting prostitution, as provided
11 for in Section 1029 of this title, if the offense
12 involved child prostitution,
13 f. publication, distribution or participation in the
14 preparation of obscene material, as provided for in
15 Section 1040.8 of this title, if the offense involved
16 child pornography,
17 g. aggravated possession of child pornography, as
18 provided for in Section 1040.12a of this title,
19 h. sale or distribution of obscene material, as provided
20 for in Section 1040.13 of this title,
21 i. soliciting sexual conduct or communication with a
22 minor by use of technology, as provided for in Section
23 1043.13a of this title,
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1 j. offering or transporting a child for purposes of
2 prostitution, as provided for in Section 1087 of this
3 title, and

4 k. child prostitution, as provided for in Section 1088 of
5 this title;

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

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

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

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

18 9. "Grooming" means the deliberate act of bringing a child into
19 a sexual, political, or racial ideology, practice, cult, or
20 lifestyle without the knowledge or consent of his or her parents for
21 the aim of isolating the child from his or her family so the
22 external party can abuse and manipulate him or her;

1 deemed harmful to minors as such terms are defined in
2 Sections 1024.1 and 1040.75 of this title,

3 h. causing, exposing, forcing or requiring a child to
4 look upon sexual acts performed in the presence of the
5 child for the purpose of sexual gratification, or

6 i. causing, forcing or requiring a child to touch or feel
7 the body or private parts of the child or another
8 person for the purpose of sexual gratification;

9 ~~11.~~ 12. "Permit" means to authorize or allow for the care of a
10 child by an individual when the person authorizing or allowing such
11 care knows or reasonably should know that the child will be placed
12 at risk of the conduct or harm proscribed by this section;

13 ~~12.~~ 13. "Person responsible for a child's health, safety or
14 welfare" for purposes of this section shall include, but not be
15 limited to:

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

4 g. an owner, operator, agent, employee or volunteer of a
5 public or private residential home, institution,
6 facility or day treatment program, as defined in
7 Section 175.20 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
8 that the child attended,

9 h. an owner, operator, agent, employee or volunteer of a
10 child care facility, as defined in Section 402 of
11 Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes, that the child
12 attended,

13 i. an intimate partner of the parent of the child, as
14 defined in Section 60.1 of Title 22 of the Oklahoma
15 Statutes, or

16 j. a person who has voluntarily accepted responsibility
17 for the care or supervision of a child;

18 ~~13.~~ 14. "Sexual intercourse" means the actual penetration,
19 however slight, of the vagina or anus by the penis; and

20 ~~14.~~ 15. "Sodomy" means:

21 a. penetration, however slight, of the mouth of the child
22 by a penis,

- 1 b. penetration, however slight, of the vagina of a person
2 responsible for a child's health, safety or welfare,
3 by the mouth of a child,
4 c. penetration, however slight, of the mouth of the
5 person responsible for a child's health, safety or
6 welfare by the penis of the child, or
7 d. penetration, however slight, of the vagina of the
8 child by the mouth of the person responsible for a
9 child's health, safety or welfare.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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