

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

S

3

SENATE BILL 579  
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/28/23  
House Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 8/16/23

Short Title: Prevent Harm to Children.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 5, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT FOR DISSEMINATING OBSCENITY, TO  
3 CLARIFY THE REGULATIONS ON ADULT LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, AND TO  
4 PROHIBIT SEXUAL CONTACT WITH A MINOR.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-190.1(g) reads as rewritten:

7 "(g) ~~Violation~~ Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a violation of this section  
8 is a Class I felony. A violation of this section committed knowingly in the presence of an  
9 individual under 18 years of age is a Class H felony."

10 **SECTION 2.** Article 26 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by adding  
11 a new section to read:

12 **"§ 14-190.15A. Restrictions on adult live entertainment.**

13 (a) Offense. – It is unlawful for a person to engage in adult live entertainment knowing,  
14 or having reason to know, that individuals under the age of 18 are present.

15 (b) Punishment. – A person who violates subsection (a) of this section is guilty of a Class  
16 A1 misdemeanor for the first offense. A person who violates subsection (a) of this section is  
17 guilty of a Class I felony for a second or subsequent offense.

18 (c) Definitions. – For purposes of this section, "adult live entertainment" shall have the  
19 same meaning as defined in G.S. 14-202.10."

20 **SECTION 3.** Article 26 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by adding  
21 a new section to read:

22 **"§ 14-202.1A. Sexual contact with a minor.**

23 (a) Definition. – The following definitions shall apply to this section:

24 (1) Intimate parts. – A person's sexual organ, anus, breast, groin, or buttocks.

25 (2) Sexual contact. – Any of the following intentional touching, if the intentional  
26 touching can reasonably be construed as being for the purpose of sexual  
27 arousal or gratification, done for a sexual purpose, or done in a sexual manner:

28 a. The intentional touching of a person's intimate parts or the intentional  
29 touching of the clothing covering the person's intimate parts.

30 b. The intentional touching of another person with a person's own  
31 intimate parts, whether or not those intimate parts are clothed.

32 (b) Offense. – Unless the conduct is covered under some other provision of law providing  
33 greater punishment, a person is guilty of sexual contact with a minor if, being 18 years of age or  
34 more, the person engages in sexual contact with a minor.



1       (c)     Punishment. – A person who violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of a Class  
2 A1 misdemeanor."  
3           **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2023, and applies to offenses  
4 committed on or after that date.