

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

H

1

HOUSE BILL 109

Short Title: Strangulation/Increase Punishment. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Logan, White, Morey, and T. Brown (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

February 13, 2025

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT FOR COMMITTING ASSAULT BY
3 STRANGULATION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-32.4 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 14-32.4. Assault inflicting serious bodily injury; strangulation; penalties.**

7 (a) Offense Involving Serious Bodily Injury. – Unless the conduct is covered under some
8 other provision of law providing greater punishment, any person who assaults another person and
9 inflicts serious bodily injury is guilty of a Class ~~F-E~~ felony. "~~Serious bodily injury~~" is defined as
10 ~~bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death, or that causes serious permanent~~
11 ~~disfigurement, coma, a permanent or protracted condition that causes extreme pain, or permanent~~
12 ~~or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or that results in~~
13 ~~prolonged hospitalization.~~

14 (b) Offense Involving Physical Injury. – Unless the conduct is covered under some other
15 provision of law providing greater punishment, any person who assaults another person and
16 inflicts physical injury by strangulation is guilty of a Class ~~H-G~~ felony.

17 (c) Offense Generally. – Unless the conduct is covered under some other provision of
18 law providing greater punishment, any person who assaults another person by strangulation is
19 guilty of a Class H felony.

20 (d) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

21 (1) Serious bodily injury. – Bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death,
22 or that causes serious permanent disfigurement, coma, a permanent or
23 protracted condition that causes extreme pain, or permanent or protracted loss
24 or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or that results
25 in prolonged hospitalization.

26 (2) Strangulation. – Impeding the normal breathing or circulation of blood of
27 another person by applying pressure to the throat or neck of the person or by
28 obstructing the nose and mouth of the person."

29 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective June 1, 2025, and applies to offenses
30 committed on or after that date.



* H 1 0 9 - V - 1 *