

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
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As Engrossed: S4/1/25 H4/9/25

A Bill

SENATE BILL 431

By: Senators J. Bryant, Hester
By: Representative R. Scott Richardson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2013; TO ELIMINATE THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR PROSECUTION OF CERTAIN HUMAN TRAFFICKING RELATED CRIMINAL OFFENSES; TO CREATE SAFE HARBORS FOR MINORS FROM SEX OFFENSES AND OTHER CRIMES THAT RESULT FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKING; TO PROHIBIT THE MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION, SALE, AND POSSESSION OF CHILD SEX DOLLS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2013; TO ELIMINATE THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR CERTAIN OFFENSES; TO CREATE SAFE HARBORS FOR VICTIMS; AND TO PROHIBIT CERTAIN SEXUALLY EXPLICIT PRODUCTS THAT RESEMBLE A CHILD.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-1-109(a)(1), concerning offenses for which prosecution may be commenced at any time, is amended to add additional subdivisions to read as follows:

(O) Sexual extortion, § 5-14-113, if the victim was a minor at the time of the offense;

(P) Trafficking of persons, § 5-18-103;

(Q) Patronizing a victim of human trafficking, § 5-18-104;

(R) Grooming a minor for future sex trafficking, § 5-18-



106; and

(S) Traveling for the purpose of an unlawful sex act with a minor, § 5-18-107.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 5-2-210 is amended to read as follows:

5-2-210. Human trafficking – Affirmative defense.

(a) As used in this section, "victim of trafficking of persons" means a person who has been subjected to trafficking of persons, § 5-18-103.

(b) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution for an offense listed under subsection (c) of this section if at the time a person engaged in the conduct charged to constitute the offense the person ~~was~~:

(1) A ~~Was a~~ victim of trafficking of persons, § 5-18-103; and

(2) Engaged in the offense as a result of the trafficking of persons, § 5-18-103.

(c) The affirmative defense under ~~this section~~ subsection (b) of this section may be raised only in a prosecution for one (1) or more of the following offenses:

(1) Forgery, § 5-37-201;

(2) Defrauding a prospective adoptive parent, § 5-37-216;

(3) A prostitution offense under § 5-70-101 et seq.;

(4) Obscene performance at a live public show, § 5-68-305; or

(5) A controlled substance offense under § 5-64-401 et seq. that is not a Class Y felony.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 27, Subchapter 3, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

5-27-308. Possession, manufacture, transport, or distribution of child sex doll.

(a) As used in this section, "child sex doll" means an anatomically correct or anatomically precise doll, mannequin, or robot that may consist of an entire body, or may consist of only a pelvis or any other body part, with features of, or with features that resemble, those of a minor intended for use in sexual acts.

(b) It is unlawful for a person to knowingly:

(1) Possess a child sex doll;

(2) Transport a child sex doll into the state;

(3) Distribute a child sex doll; or

(4) Manufacture a child sex doll.

(c) A violation of this section is:

(1) A Class D felony under subdivision (b)(1) of this section;

(2) A Class C felony under subdivision (b)(2) or (b)(3) of this section; or

(3) A Class B felony under subdivision (b)(4) of this section.

/s/J. Bryant