

SENATE BILL NO. 58

BY SENATORS CONNICK, ABRAHAM, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CLOUD, FESI, FOIL, HENRY, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, MCMATH, MILLER, MIZELL, MYERS, SELDERS, STINE AND WHEAT AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, AMEDEE, BAYHAM, BUTLER, CARRIER, CHASSION, COX, DEWITT, DOMANGUE, EDMONSTON, FIRMENT, FREIBERG, HILFERTY, HORTON, ILLG, KNOX, LARVADAIN, MCMAKIN, MILLER, MOORE, NEWELL, SCHLEGEL, SPELL, STAGNI, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, VILLIO, WALTERS AND WILDER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:81(A)(1) and (C) and to enact R.S. 14:81(A)(3), relative to  
3 sexual offenses affecting minors; to provide relative to the elements of indecent  
4 behavior with juveniles; to provide for a definition; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 14:81(A)(1) and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
8 14:81(A)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §81. Indecent behavior with juveniles

10 A. Indecent behavior with juveniles is the commission of any of the  
11 following acts with the intention of arousing or gratifying the sexual desires of either  
12 person:

13 (1) Any lewd or lascivious act upon the person or in the presence of any child  
14 under the age of seventeen, where there is an age difference of greater than two years  
15 between the two persons. Lack of knowledge of the child's age shall not be a defense;  
16 ~~or,~~

17 \* \* \*

18 **(3) The grooming of a child under the age of seventeen, where the**  
19 **offender is at least four years older than the child. Completion or attempt to**  
20 **complete such act is not necessary to constitute grooming. Lack of knowledge**  
21 **of the child's age shall not be a defense.**

22 \* \* \*

1 C. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms shall have the  
2 following meanings:

3 (1) "Grooming" shall mean the pursuit of an intimate relationship with  
4 a child under the age of seventeen by means of seduction, emotional  
5 manipulation, threats, promises, coercion, enticement, isolation, or extortion  
6 with the specific intent to commit a sex offense as defined in R.S. 15:541 against  
7 the minor, whether aggravated or not.

8 (2) "~~textual~~ **Textual**, visual, written, or oral communication" means any  
9 communication of any kind, whether electronic or otherwise, made through the use  
10 of the United States mail, any private carrier, personal courier, computer online  
11 service, ~~Internet~~ **internet** service, local bulletin board service, ~~Internet~~ **internet** chat  
12 room, electronic mail, online messaging service, or personal delivery or contact.

13 \* \* \*

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_