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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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DIGEST

SB 58 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Connick

Proposed law creates the crime of child grooming and makes it a crime for a person to take any action to persuade, induce, entice, seduce, or coerce a child under the age of 13 to engage in any conduct intended to facilitate the offender committing a lewd or lascivious act upon the child, in the child's presence, or in the presence of another child who is under 13 years of age.

Proposed law provides that, in a prosecution for child grooming, the finder of fact must consider all pertinent circumstances to determine if the state proved, beyond a reasonable doubt, the offender's intent to violate proposed law.

Proposed law provides that a person who commits the crime of child grooming will be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than 15 years.

Proposed law adds the crime of child grooming to the present law list of crimes that constitute a "sexual offense against a victim who is a minor".

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 15:541(25)(o); adds R.S. 14:81.7 and R.S. 15:541(25)(p))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary C to the original bill

1. Lower the age requirement for victims from under 17 years of age to under 13 years of age.
2. Remove the two year difference in age requirement between the offender and the victim.
3. Provide that the finder of fact will consider all relevant circumstances to determine if the offender's intent to violate proposed law was proven beyond a reasonable doubt.
4. Change proposed law penalties from imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for not more than five years to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for not more than 15 years.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Make technical changes.
2. Remove child grooming from the definition of "sex offense" and add it to the list of "sexual offenses against a victim who is a minor".