

JUVENILE OFFENSES AMENDMENTS

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Marc K. Roberts

Senate Sponsor: Todd Weiler

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill makes changes to juvenile sex offenses when both juveniles are under 18 years of age.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates a new provision for unlawful adolescent sexual activity between persons under 18 years of age;
- ▶ creates penalties; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming corrections.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

76-3-406, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 366

76-5-401, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapter 372

77-2-9, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2009, Chapter 146

ENACTS:

76-5-401.3, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **76-3-406** is amended to read:

76-3-406. Crimes for which probation, suspension of sentence, lower category of offense, or hospitalization may not be granted.

(1) Notwithstanding Sections **76-3-201** and **77-18-1** and Title 77, Chapter 16a, Commitment and Treatment of Persons with a Mental Illness, except as provided in Section **76-5-406.5**, probation ~~[shall]~~ may not be granted, the execution or imposition of sentence ~~[shall]~~ may not be suspended, the court ~~[shall]~~ may not enter a judgment for a lower category of offense, and hospitalization ~~[shall]~~ may not be ordered, the effect of which would in any way shorten the prison sentence for any person who commits a capital felony or a first degree felony involving:

~~[(1)]~~ (a) Section **76-5-202**, aggravated murder;

~~[(2)]~~ (b) Section **76-5-203**, murder;

~~[(3)]~~ (c) Section **76-5-301.1**, child kidnapping;

~~[(4)]~~ (d) Section **76-5-302**, aggravated kidnapping;

~~[(5)]~~ (e) Section **76-5-402**, rape, if the person is sentenced under Subsection **76-5-402(3)(b)**, (3)(c), or (4);

~~[(6)]~~ (f) Section **76-5-402.1**, rape of a child;

~~[(7)]~~ (g) Section **76-5-402.2**, object rape, if the person is sentenced under Subsection **76-5-402.2(1)(b)**, (1)(c), or (2);

~~[(8)]~~ (h) Section **76-5-402.3**, object rape of a child;

~~[(9)]~~ (i) Section **76-5-403**, forcible sodomy, if the person is sentenced under Subsection **76-5-403(4)(b)**, (4)(c), or (5);

~~[(10)]~~ (j) Section **76-5-403.1**, sodomy on a child;

~~[(11)]~~ (k) Section **76-5-404**, forcible sexual abuse, if the person is sentenced under Subsection **76-5-404(2)(b)** or (3);

~~[(12)]~~ (l) Subsections **76-5-404.1(4)** and (5), aggravated sexual abuse of a child;

~~[(13)]~~ (m) Section **76-5-405**, aggravated sexual assault; or

~~[(14)]~~ (n) any attempt to commit a felony listed in Subsection ~~[(6), (8), or (10)]~~ (f), (h),

58 or (j).

59 (2) The provisions of this section do not apply if the sentencing court finds that the
60 defendant was under the age of 18 at the time of the offense and could have been adjudicated in
61 the juvenile court but for the delayed reporting or delayed filing of the Information, unless the
62 offenses are before the court pursuant to Section 78A-6-701, 78A-6-702, or 78A-6-703.

63 Section 2. Section **76-5-401** is amended to read:

64 **76-5-401. Unlawful sexual activity with a minor -- Elements -- Penalties --**
65 **Evidence of age raised by defendant.**

66 (1) For purposes of this section "minor" is a person who is 14 years of age or older, but
67 younger than 16 years of age, at the time the sexual activity described in this section occurred.

68 (2) A person 18 years of age or older commits unlawful sexual activity with a minor if,
69 under circumstances not amounting to rape, in violation of Section 76-5-402, object rape, in
70 violation of Section 76-5-402.2, forcible sodomy, in violation of Section 76-5-403, or
71 aggravated sexual assault, in violation of Section 76-5-405, the actor:

72 (a) has sexual intercourse with the minor;

73 (b) engages in any sexual act with the minor involving the genitals of one person and
74 the mouth or anus of another person, regardless of the sex of either participant; or

75 (c) causes the penetration, however slight, of the genital or anal opening of the minor
76 by any foreign object, substance, instrument, or device, including a part of the human body,
77 with the intent to cause substantial emotional or bodily pain to any person or with the intent to
78 arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person, regardless of the sex of any participant.

79 (3) (a) Except under Subsection (3)(b), a violation of Subsection (2) is a third degree
80 felony.

81 (b) If the defendant establishes by a preponderance of the evidence the mitigating
82 factor that the defendant is less than four years older than the minor at the time the sexual
83 activity occurred, the offense is a class B misdemeanor. An offense under this Subsection
84 (3)(b) is not subject to registration under Subsection 77-41-102(17)(a)(iii).

85 Section 3. Section **76-5-401.3** is enacted to read:

76-5-401.3. Unlawful adolescent sexual activity.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Adolescent" means a person in the transitional phase of human physical and psychological growth and development between childhood and adulthood who is 12 years of age or older, but under 18 years of age.

(b) "Unlawful adolescent sexual activity" means sexual activity between adolescents under circumstances not amounting to:

(i) rape, in violation of Section [76-5-402](#);

(ii) rape of a child, in violation of Section [76-5-402.1](#);

(iii) object rape, in violation of Section [76-5-402.2](#);

(iv) object rape of a child, in violation of Section [76-5-402.3](#);

(v) forcible sodomy, in violation of Section [76-5-403](#);

(vi) sodomy on a child, in violation of Section [76-5-403.1](#);

(vi) aggravated sexual assault, in violation of Section [76-5-405](#);

(vii) sexual abuse of a child, in violation of Section [76-5-404](#); or

(viii) incest, in violation of Section [76-7-102](#).

(2) Unlawful adolescent sexual activity is punishable as a:

(a) third degree felony if an adolescent who is 17 years of age engages in unlawful adolescent sexual activity with an adolescent who is 12 or 13 years of age;

(b) third degree felony if an adolescent who is 16 years of age engages in unlawful adolescent sexual activity with an adolescent who is 12 years of age;

(c) class A misdemeanor if an adolescent who is 16 years of age engages in unlawful adolescent sexual activity with an adolescent who is 13 years of age;

(d) class A misdemeanor if an adolescent who is 14 or 15 years of age engages in unlawful adolescent sexual activity with an adolescent who is 12 years of age;

(e) class B misdemeanor if an adolescent who is 17 years of age engages in unlawful adolescent sexual activity with an adolescent who is 14 years of age;

(f) class B misdemeanor if an adolescent who is 15 years of age engages in unlawful

adolescent sexual activity with an adolescent who is 13 years of age;

(g) class C misdemeanor if an adolescent who is 12 or 13 years of age engages in unlawful adolescent sexual activity with an adolescent who is 12 or 13 years of age; and

(h) class C misdemeanor if an adolescent who is 14 years of age engages in unlawful adolescent sexual activity with an adolescent who is 13 years of age.

(3) Offenses under this section are not eligible for nonjudicial adjustment under Section 78A-6-602 or referral to youth court under Section 78A-6-1203.

(4) Unless the offenses are before the court pursuant to Section 78A-6-701, 78A-6-702, or 78A-6-703, the district court may enter any sentence or combination of sentences which would have been available in juvenile court but for the delayed reporting or delayed filing of the information in district court.

(5) An offense under this section is not subject to registration under Subsection 77-41-102(17).

Section 4. Section 77-2-9 is amended to read:

77-2-9. Offenses ineligible for diversion.

(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), diversion may not be granted by a magistrate for:

(a) a capital felony;

(b) a felony in the first degree;

(c) any case involving a sexual offense against a victim who is under the age of 14;

(d) any motor vehicle related offense involving alcohol or drugs;

(e) any case involving using a motor vehicle in the commission of a felony;

(f) driving a motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle on a revoked or suspended license;

(g) any case involving operating a commercial motor vehicle in a negligent manner causing the death of another including the offenses of:

(i) manslaughter under Section 76-5-205; or

(ii) negligent homicide under Section 76-5-206; or

142 (h) a crime of domestic violence as defined in Section [77-36-1](#).
143 (2) When a person [~~under the age of 16~~] is alleged to have committed any violation of
144 Title 76, Chapter 5, Part 4, Sexual Offenses, while under the age of 16, the court may enter a
145 diversion in the matter if the court enters on the record its findings that:
146 (a) the offenses could have been adjudicated in juvenile court but for the delayed
147 reporting or delayed filing of the information in district court, unless the offenses are before the
148 court pursuant to Section [78A-6-701](#), [78A-6-702](#), or [78A-6-703](#);
149 [~~(a)~~] (b) the person did not use coercion or force;
150 [~~(b)~~] (c) there is no more than [~~two~~] three years' difference between the ages of the
151 participants; and
152 [~~(c)~~] (d) it would be in the best interest of the person to grant diversion.