

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1971



ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 502

(By Mr. PEREY AND MR. JONES OF ROANE)



PASSED MARCH 11 1971

In Effect NINETY DAYS FROM Passage



502

ENROLLED

House Bill No. 502

(By MR. PERRY and MR. JONES, of Roane)

[Passed March 11, 1971; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend article eight, chapter sixty-one of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated section twenty-nine, prohibiting the lewd or licentious touching or fondling or the sexual molesting of any child under the age of twelve years; and providing criminal penalties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That article eight, chapter sixty-one of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section twenty-nine, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 8. CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY, MORALITY AND
DECENCY.**

§61-8-29. Child molesting; penalties.

1 No person over the age of eighteen years shall in a
2 lewd or licentious manner touch or fondle or sexually
3 molest any child under the age of twelve years. Any
4 person who violates any provision of this section shall
5 be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof,
6 shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, or
7 imprisoned in the county jail not more than one year,
8 or both fined and imprisoned. A person convicted for any
9 second or subsequent offense under this section shall be
10 guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment
11 in the penitentiary for not less than one nor more than
12 five years.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Fusell G. Beall
Chairman Senate Committee

Phyllis Rintledge
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House.

Takes effect ninety days from passage.

Howard Keyes
Clerk of the Senate

C. Blankenship
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Chapman
President of the Senate

Lewis N. McManus
Speaker House of Delegates

The within *approved* this the *31st*
day of *March*, 1971.

Arch A. Moore, Jr.
Governor



PRESENTED TO THE
GOVERNOR

Date 3/16/71

Time 1:25 p.m.