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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST EXTRAORDINARY SESSION, 1994

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 5002

(By Delegate & Faircloth, Huntwork, Kessel, Pino, Trump, L. White and Whitman)

Passed March 15, 1994
In Effect 90 Days From Passage

● **60CU** 360-C

ENROLLED

H. B. 5002

(By Delegates Faircloth, Huntwork, Kessel, Pino, Trump, L. White and Whitman)

[Passed March 15, 1994; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend article eight-d, 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 two-a, relating to prohibiting conduct whereby a parent, guardian or custodian maliciously and intentionally inflicts, or knowingly allows another to so inflict, upon a child substantial physical pain, illness or any impairment of physical condition by other than accidental means, thereby causing the death of such child; providing that such conduct is a felony; and criminal penalties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That article eight-d, 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 two-a, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 8D. CHILD ABUSE.

- §61-8D-2a. Death of a child by a parent, guardian or custodian or other person by child abuse; criminal penalties.
 - 1 (a) If any parent, guardian or custodian shall mali-
 - 2 ciously and intentionally inflict upon a child under his
 - 3 or her care, custody or control substantial physical pain,
 - 4 illness or any impairment of physical condition by other

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- than accidental means, thereby causing the death of such child, then such parent, guardian or custodian shall be guilty of a felony.
- 8 (b) If any parent, guardian or custodian shall knowingly allow any other person to maliciously and inten-9 10 tionally inflict upon a child under the care, custody or control of such parent, guardian or custodian substantial 11 12 physical pain, illness or any impairment of physical condition by other than accidental means, which thereby 13 causes the death of such child, then such other person 14 15 and such parent, guardian or custodian shall each be 16 guilty of a felony.
 - (c) Any person convicted of a felony described in subsection (a) or (b) of this section shall be punished by a definite term of imprisonment in the penitentiary which is not less than ten nor more than forty years. A person imprisoned pursuant to the provisions of this section is not eligible for parole prior to having served a minimum of ten years of his or her sentence or the minimum period required by the provisions of section thirteen, article twelve, chapter sixty-two of this code, whichever is greater.
 - (d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any parent, guardian or custodian or other person who, without malice, fails or refuses, or allows another person to, without malice, fail or refuse, to supply a child under the care, custody or control of such parent, guardian or custodian with necessary medical care, when such medical care conflicts with the tenets and practices of a recognized religious denomination or order of which such parent, guardian or custodian is an adherent or member. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any health care provider who fails or refuses, or allows another person to fail or refuse, to supply a child with necessary medical care when such medical care conflicts with the tenets and practices of a recognized religious denomination or order of which the parent, guardian or custodian of the child is an adherent or member, or where such failure or refusal is pursuant to a properly executed do not resuscitate form.

The Joint Committee Enrolled Phils hereby pertifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.
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