

HB 781 -- First Degree Child Molestation

Sponsor: Torpey

Currently, a person commits the crime of child molestation in the first degree, a class B felony, if a person subjects another who is younger than 14 years of age to sexual contact. If the actor has previously been convicted of a sexual offense, inflicts serious physical injury, displays a deadly weapon or instrument in a threatening manner, or if the offense is committed as part of a ritual or ceremony, he or she is guilty of a class A felony, unless the child is younger than 12 years of age in which case he or she is guilty of a class A felony and must serve his or her term of imprisonment without eligibility for probation or parole. This bill increases the penalty for child molestation in the first degree when the victim is a child younger than 13 years of age to a class A felony and removes the provision regarding if the victim is a child younger than 12 years of age.