



2025-2026 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 429: 2025 Public Safety Act, Sec. 9: Revise Law Prohibiting Sexual Activity by a Substitute Parent or Custodian to Include Religious Organizations or Institutions

Analysis of: S.L. 2025-70, Sec. 9

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Prepared by: Legislative Analysis
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Section 9 of S.L. 2025-70 (Senate Bill 429) modifies G.S. 14-27.31, which prohibits sexual activity by a substitute parent or custodian to include religious organizations or institutions. G.S. 14-27.31(b) prohibits a person having custody of a victim of any age or a person who works for an institution having custody over a person from engaging in sexual activity with the person. Section 9 modifies this law to provide that an institution having custody over a person includes a "religious organization or institution." This section also creates a new definition of "custody" to clarify that definition.

This section becomes effective December 1, 2025, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

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