

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 14(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/26/19

Referred: Today's Calendar

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES LINCOLN, Claman, Fields, Spohnholz, Tarr, Tuck, Zulkosky, Hopkins, Drummond, Kreiss-Tomkins, LeDoux, Kopp, Rasmussen, Vance, Stutes, Josephson

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to assault in the first degree; relating to harassment; relating to sex
2 offenses; relating to the definition of 'dangerous instrument'; providing for an
3 aggravating factor at sentencing for strangulation that results in unconsciousness;
4 relating to the duties of the prosecuting attorney; and relating to victim notifications."

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 * **Section 1.** AS 11.41.200(a) is amended to read:

7 (a) A person commits the crime of assault in the first degree if

8 (1) that person recklessly causes serious physical injury to another by
9 means of a dangerous instrument;

10 (2) with intent to cause serious physical injury to another, the person
11 causes serious physical injury to any person;

12 (3) the person knowingly engages in conduct that results in serious
13 physical injury to another under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the
14 value of human life; [OR]

(4) that person recklessly causes serious physical injury to another by repeated assaults using a dangerous instrument, even if each assault individually does not cause serious physical injury; or

(5) that person knowingly causes another to become unconscious by means of a dangerous instrument; in this paragraph, "dangerous instrument" has the meaning given in AS 11.81.900(b)(15)(B).

* **Sec. 2.** AS 11.61.118(a) is amended to read:

(a) A person commits the crime of harassment in the first degree if, under circumstances not proscribed under AS 11.41.434 - 11.41.440,

[(1)] the person violates AS 11.61.120(a)(5) and the offensive physical contact is contact

(1) with human or animal blood, mucus, saliva, semen, urine, vomitus, or feces; or

(2) [UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES NOT PROSCRIBED UNDER AS 11.41.434 - 11.41.440, THE PERSON VIOLATES AS 11.61.120(a)(5) AND THE OFFENSIVE PHYSICAL CONTACT IS CONTACT] by the person touching through clothing another person's genitals, buttocks, or female breast.

* **Sec. 3.** AS 11.81.900(b)(15) is amended to read:

(15) "dangerous instrument" means

(A) any deadly weapon or anything that, under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used, or threatened to be used, is capable of causing death or serious physical injury; or

(B) hands, **other body parts,** or other objects when used to impede normal breathing or circulation of blood by applying pressure on the throat or neck or obstructing the nose or mouth;

* **Sec. 4.** AS 11.81.900(b)(60) is amended to read:

(60) "sexual contact" means

(A) the defendant's

(i) knowingly touching, directly or through clothing, the victim's genitals, anus, or female breast; [OR]

(ii) knowingly causing the victim to touch, directly or

1 through clothing, the defendant's or victim's genitals, anus, or female
 2 breast; or

3 (iii) knowingly causing the victim to come into
 4 contact with ejaculate;

5 (B) but "sexual contact" does not include acts

6 (i) that may reasonably be construed to be normal
 7 caretaker responsibilities for a child, interactions with a child, or
 8 affection for a child;

9 (ii) performed for the purpose of administering a
 10 recognized and lawful form of treatment that is reasonably adapted to
 11 promoting the physical or mental health of the person being treated; or

12 (iii) that are a necessary part of a search of a person committed to the custody
 13 of the Department of Corrections or the Department of Health and Social Services;

14 * **Sec. 5.** AS 12.55.155(c) is amended to read:

15 (c) The following factors shall be considered by the sentencing court if proven
 16 in accordance with this section, and may allow imposition of a sentence above the
 17 presumptive range set out in AS 12.55.125:

18 (1) a person, other than an accomplice, sustained physical injury as a
 19 direct result of the defendant's conduct;

20 (2) the defendant's conduct during the commission of the offense
 21 manifested deliberate cruelty to another person;

22 (3) the defendant was the leader of a group of three or more persons
 23 who participated in the offense;

24 (4) the defendant employed a dangerous instrument in furtherance of
 25 the offense;

26 (5) the defendant knew or reasonably should have known that the
 27 victim of the offense was particularly vulnerable or incapable of resistance due to
 28 advanced age, disability, ill health, homelessness, consumption of alcohol or drugs, or
 29 extreme youth or was for any other reason substantially incapable of exercising
 30 normal physical or mental powers of resistance;

31 (6) the defendant's conduct created a risk of imminent physical injury

1 to three or more persons, other than accomplices;

2 (7) a prior felony conviction considered for the purpose of invoking a
3 presumptive range under this chapter was of a more serious class of offense than the
4 present offense;

5 (8) the defendant's prior criminal history includes conduct involving
6 aggravated assaultive behavior, repeated instances of assaultive behavior, repeated
7 instances of cruelty to animals proscribed under AS 11.61.140(a)(1) and (3) - (5), or a
8 combination of assaultive behavior and cruelty to animals proscribed under
9 AS 11.61.140(a)(1) and (3) - (5); in this paragraph, "aggravated assaultive behavior"
10 means assault that is a felony under AS 11.41, or a similar provision in another
11 jurisdiction;

12 (9) the defendant knew that the offense involved more than one victim;

13 (10) the conduct constituting the offense was among the most serious
14 conduct included in the definition of the offense;

15 (11) the defendant committed the offense under an agreement that the
16 defendant either pay or be paid for the commission of the offense, and the pecuniary
17 incentive was beyond that inherent in the offense itself;

18 (12) the defendant was on release under AS 12.30 for another felony
19 charge or conviction or for a misdemeanor charge or conviction having assault as a
20 necessary element;

21 (13) the defendant knowingly directed the conduct constituting the
22 offense at an active officer of the court or at an active or former judicial officer,
23 prosecuting attorney, law enforcement officer, correctional employee, firefighter,
24 emergency medical technician, paramedic, ambulance attendant, or other emergency
25 responder during or because of the exercise of official duties;

26 (14) the defendant was a member of an organized group of five or
27 more persons, and the offense was committed to further the criminal objectives of the
28 group;

29 (15) the defendant has three or more prior felony convictions;

30 (16) the defendant's criminal conduct was designed to obtain
31 substantial pecuniary gain and the risk of prosecution and punishment for the conduct

1 is slight;

2 (17) the offense was one of a continuing series of criminal offenses
3 committed in furtherance of illegal business activities from which the defendant
4 derives a major portion of the defendant's income;

5 (18) the offense was a felony

6 (A) specified in AS 11.41 and was committed against a spouse,
7 a former spouse, or a member of the social unit made up of those living
8 together in the same dwelling as the defendant;

9 (B) specified in AS 11.41.410 - 11.41.458 and the defendant
10 has engaged in the same or other conduct prohibited by a provision of
11 AS 11.41.410 - 11.41.460 involving the same or another victim;

12 (C) specified in AS 11.41 that is a crime involving domestic
13 violence and was committed in the physical presence or hearing of a child
14 under 16 years of age who was, at the time of the offense, living within the
15 residence of the victim, the residence of the perpetrator, or the residence where
16 the crime involving domestic violence occurred;

17 (D) specified in AS 11.41 and was committed against a person
18 with whom the defendant has a dating relationship or with whom the defendant
19 has engaged in a sexual relationship; or

20 (E) specified in AS 11.41.434 - 11.41.458 or AS 11.61.128 and
21 the defendant was 10 or more years older than the victim;

22 (19) the defendant's prior criminal history includes an adjudication as a
23 delinquent for conduct that would have been a felony if committed by an adult;

24 (20) the defendant was on furlough under AS 33.30 or on parole or
25 probation for another felony charge or conviction that would be considered a prior
26 felony conviction under AS 12.55.145(a)(1)(B);

27 (21) the defendant has a criminal history of repeated instances of
28 conduct violative of criminal laws, whether punishable as felonies or misdemeanors,
29 similar in nature to the offense for which the defendant is being sentenced under this
30 section;

31 (22) the defendant knowingly directed the conduct constituting the

1 offense at a victim because of that person's race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental
2 disability, ancestry, or national origin;

3 (23) the defendant is convicted of an offense specified in AS 11.71 and

4 (A) the offense involved the delivery of a controlled substance
5 under circumstances manifesting an intent to distribute the substance as part of
6 a commercial enterprise; or

7 (B) at the time of the conduct resulting in the conviction, the
8 defendant was caring for or assisting in the care of a child under 10 years of
9 age;

10 (24) the defendant is convicted of an offense specified in AS 11.71 and
11 the offense involved the transportation of controlled substances into the state;

12 (25) the defendant is convicted of an offense specified in AS 11.71 and
13 the offense involved large quantities of a controlled substance;

14 (26) the defendant is convicted of an offense specified in AS 11.71 and
15 the offense involved the distribution of a controlled substance that had been
16 adulterated with a toxic substance;

17 (27) the defendant, being 18 years of age or older,

18 (A) is legally accountable under AS 11.16.110(2) for the
19 conduct of a person who, at the time the offense was committed, was under 18
20 years of age and at least three years younger than the defendant; or

21 (B) is aided or abetted in planning or committing the offense by
22 a person who, at the time the offense was committed, was under 18 years of
23 age and at least three years younger than the defendant;

24 (28) the victim of the offense is a person who provided testimony or
25 evidence related to a prior offense committed by the defendant;

26 (29) the defendant committed the offense for the benefit of, at the
27 direction of, or in association with a criminal street gang;

28 (30) the defendant is convicted of an offense specified in AS 11.41.410
29 - 11.41.455, and the defendant knowingly supplied alcohol or a controlled substance to
30 the victim in furtherance of the offense with the intent to make the victim
31 incapacitated; in this paragraph, "incapacitated" has the meaning given in

1 AS 11.41.470;

2 (31) the defendant's prior criminal history includes convictions for five
3 or more crimes in this or another jurisdiction that are class A misdemeanors under the
4 law of this state, or having elements similar to a class A misdemeanor; two or more
5 convictions arising out of a single continuous episode are considered a single
6 conviction; however, an offense is not a part of a continuous episode if committed
7 while attempting to escape or resist arrest or if it is an assault on a uniformed or
8 otherwise clearly identified peace officer or correctional employee; notice and denial
9 of convictions are governed by AS 12.55.145(b) - (d);

10 (32) the offense is a violation of AS 11.41 or AS 11.46.400 and the
11 offense occurred on school grounds, on a school bus, at a school-sponsored event, or
12 in the administrative offices of a school district if students are educated at that office;
13 in this paragraph,

14 (A) "school bus" has the meaning given in AS 11.71.900;

15 (B) "school district" has the meaning given in AS 47.07.063;

16 (C) "school grounds" has the meaning given in AS 11.71.900;

17 (33) the offense was a felony specified in AS 11.41.410 - 11.41.455,
18 the defendant had been previously diagnosed as having or having tested positive for
19 HIV or AIDS, and the offense either (A) involved penetration, or (B) exposed the
20 victim to a risk or a fear that the offense could result in the transmission of HIV or
21 AIDS; in this paragraph, "HIV" and "AIDS" have the meanings given in
22 AS 18.15.310;

23 (34) the defendant committed the offense on, or to affect persons or
24 property on, the premises of a recognized shelter or facility providing services to
25 victims of domestic violence or sexual assault;

26 (35) the defendant knowingly directed the conduct constituting the
27 offense at a victim because that person was 65 years of age or older;

28 (36) the defendant committed the offense at a health care facility and
29 knowingly directed the conduct constituting the offense at a medical professional
30 during or because of the medical professional's exercise of professional duties; in this
31 paragraph,

1 (A) "health care facility" has the meaning given in
2 AS 18.07.111;

3 (B) "medical professional" has the meaning given in
4 AS 12.55.135(k);

5 **(37) the defendant knowingly caused the victim to become**
6 **unconscious by means of a dangerous instrument; in this paragraph, "dangerous**
7 **instrument" has the meaning given in AS 11.81.900(b)(15)(B).**

8 * Sec. 6. AS 12.61.015(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) If a victim of a felony, **a sex offense as defined in AS 12.63.100**, or a
10 crime involving domestic violence requests, the prosecuting attorney shall make a
11 reasonable effort to

12 (1) confer with the person against whom the offense has been
13 perpetrated about that person's testimony before the defendant's trial;

14 (2) in a manner reasonably calculated to give prompt actual notice,
15 notify the victim

16 (A) of the defendant's conviction and the crimes of which the
17 defendant was convicted;

18 (B) of the victim's right in a case that is a felony to make a
19 written or oral statement for use in preparation of the defendant's presentence
20 report, and of the victim's right to appear personally at the defendant's
21 sentencing hearing to present a written statement and to give sworn testimony
22 or an unsworn oral presentation;

23 (C) of the address and telephone number of the office that will
24 prepare the presentence report; and

25 (D) of the time and place of the sentencing proceeding;

26 (3) notify the victim in writing of the final disposition of the case
27 within 30 days after final disposition of the case;

28 (4) confer with the victim **or the victim's legal guardian** concerning a
29 proposed plea agreement before entering into **the plea** [AN] agreement **to ask the**
30 **victim or the victim's legal guardian whether the victim is in agreement with the**
31 **proposed plea agreement; the prosecuting attorney shall record whether the**

1 **victim or the victim's legal guardian is in agreement with the proposed plea**
 2 **agreement;**

3 (5) inform the victim of a pending motion that may substantially delay
 4 the prosecution and inform the court of the victim's position on the motion; in this
 5 paragraph, a "substantial delay" is

6 (A) for a misdemeanor, a delay of one month or longer;

7 (B) for a felony, a delay of two months or longer; and

8 (C) for an appeal, a delay of six months or longer.

9 * **Sec. 7.** AS 12.61.015 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

10 (d) The court may reschedule a hearing to consider a plea agreement as
 11 needed to allow additional time to comply with the victim notification requirements
 12 under (a)(2) and (4) of this section.

13 (e) Nothing in this section requires a victim or a victim's legal guardian to
 14 provide a response to a prosecuting attorney regarding a plea agreement or requires the
 15 prosecuting attorney to be bound by the victim's or legal guardian's response regarding
 16 the plea agreement.

17 * **Sec. 8.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 18 read:

19 APPLICABILITY. AS 11.41.200(a), as amended by sec. 1 of this Act,
 20 AS 11.61.118(a), as amended by sec. 2 of this Act, AS 11.81.900(b)(15), as amended by sec.
 21 3 of this Act, AS 11.81.900(b)(60), as amended by sec. 4 of this Act, and AS 12.55.155(c), as
 22 amended by sec. 5 of this Act, apply to offenses committed on or after the effective date of
 23 this Act.