



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2374

child prostitution; offense

Prime Sponsor: Representative Farnsworth E, LD 12

X Committee on Judiciary

Caucus and COW

House Engrossed

OVERVIEW

HB 2374 makes it a Class 2 felony to knowingly provide the means for a minor to engage in prostitution and prescribes specific penalties for the offense.

PROVISIONS

1. Expands the offense of *child prostitution* to include knowingly providing a means for a minor to engage in prostitution.
2. Designates the violation as a Class 2 felony.
 - a. If the victim is under 15 years of age, the offense is punishable as a dangerous crime against children with a presumptive prison term of 20 years ([A.R.S. 13-705](#))
 - b. If the victim is 15, 16 or 17 years of age, the offense carries a specific sentence outlined in [A.R.S. 13-3212\(G\)](#) with a presumptive prison term of 13.5 years.

CURRENT LAW

A.R.S. Title 13, Chapter 32 outlines various offenses involving prostitution. *Child prostitution* is defined in A.R.S. § 13-3212 as knowingly:

- Causing a minor to engage in prostitution or using a minor for prostitution
- Allowing a minor in the person's custody to engage in prostitution
- Receiving any benefit for procuring or placing a minor in any place or in anyone's custody for the purpose of prostitution
- Receiving any benefit through an agreement to participate in the proceeds of prostitution
- Financing, managing, supervising, controlling or owning prostitution activity involving a minor
- Transporting or financing the transportation of a minor with the intent that the minor engage in prostitution

If the victim is under 15 years of age, *child prostitution* is punishable as a *dangerous crime against children* and carries a presumptive prison term of 20 years (no predicate felony). If the victim is 15, 16 or 17 years old, *child prostitution* is a Class 2 felony with a presumptive prison term of 13.5 years (first offense).

If the person is at least 18 years old, the offense of *child prostitution* also includes knowingly engaging in prostitution with a minor. Various penalties are provided based on the age of the victim and whether the offender should have known that the victim was underage.