

REFERENCE TITLE: child abduction; biological family relationship

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2025

## **SB 1244**

Introduced by  
Senator Farnsworth

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 13-1310, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO  
KIDNAPPING.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 13-1310, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 13-1310. Abduction of child from a state agency;  
5 classification; definition

6 A. A person commits abduction of a child from a state agency if,  
7 knowing or having reason to know that a child is entrusted by authority of  
8 law to the custody of a state agency, the person does either of the  
9 following:

10 1. Takes, entices or keeps the child from the lawful custody of the  
11 state agency.

12 2. Intentionally fails or refuses to immediately return or impedes  
13 the immediate return of a child to the lawful custody of the state agency,  
14 including at the expiration of visitation or access.

15 B. A violation of subsection A, paragraph 2 of this section is a  
16 class 5 felony, except that it is a class 1 misdemeanor if all of the  
17 following apply:

18 1. The child has voluntarily and without consent left the placement  
19 location.

20 2. The person who fails or refuses to return the child is ~~the~~  
21 ~~child's natural or adoptive parent~~ AN ADULT WITH A BIOLOGICAL FAMILY  
22 RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHILD.

23 3. The person's motive for keeping the child is to protect and care  
24 for the child.

25 C. A violation of subsection A, paragraph 1 of this section is:

26 1. A class 3 felony if the child is taken, enticed or kept from the  
27 lawful custody of the state agency and is taken outside of this state.

28 2. A class 4 felony if the child is taken, enticed or kept from the  
29 lawful custody of the state agency but the child remains in this state at  
30 all times.

31 3. A class 6 felony if the person voluntarily returns the child  
32 without physical injury not later than forty-eight hours after the person  
33 takes, entices or keeps the child from the lawful custody of the state  
34 agency.

35 4. A class 1 misdemeanor if all of the following apply:

36 (a) The child has voluntarily and without consent left the  
37 placement location.

38 (b) The person who fails or refuses to return the child is ~~the~~  
39 ~~child's natural or adoptive parent~~ AN ADULT WITH A BIOLOGICAL FAMILY  
40 RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHILD.

41 (c) The person's motive for keeping the child is to protect and  
42 care for the child.

43 D. For the purposes of this section, "state agency" means the  
44 department of child safety or the department of juvenile corrections.