



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB5562

Introduced 2/13/2026, by Rep. Michelle Mussman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

720 ILCS 5/12-2.7 new

Amends the Criminal Code of 2012. Creates the offense of torture. Provides that a person commits torture when that person knowingly and cruelly engages in a course of conduct that torments a victim under the age of 18 years. Provides that proof that a victim suffered physical, mental, or emotional impairment is not an element of the offense. Provides that torture does not include: (1) reasonable parental discipline or (2) any medical examination or procedure that is conducted by a physician, nurse, medical or hospital personnel, parent, or caretaker for purposes and in a manner consistent with reasonable medical standards and care. Provides that a victim under the age of 18 years cannot consent to torture. Provides that torture is a Class X felony. Provides that an offender under the age of 18 years at the time of the commission of the offense shall be sentenced under the provisions of the Unified Code of Corrections concerning the sentencing of individuals under the age of 18 at the time of the commission of an offense. Defines "course of conduct" and "cruelly".

LRB104 20184 RLC 33635 b

1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Criminal Code of 2012 is amended by adding
5 Section 12-2.7 as follows:

6 (720 ILCS 5/12-2.7 new)

7 Sec. 12-2.7. Torture.

8 (a) A person commits torture when that person knowingly
9 and cruelly engages in a course of conduct that torments a
10 victim under the age of 18 years.

11 (b) As used in this Section:

12 "Course of conduct" means at least 2 acts or deprivations,
13 other than by accidental means, directly, indirectly, or
14 through third parties, which include, but are not limited to:

15 (1) physical abuse or confinement or sexual, mental,
16 or emotional abuse; or

17 (2) withholding of necessary nutrition, nourishment,
18 shelter, or medical care; or

19 (3) the administration or application, or threatened
20 administration or application, of mind-altering
21 substances; or

22 (4) any other act or deprivation that is likely to
23 create, increase, or prolong the pain, suffering, or agony

1 of a person.

2 (c) Proof that a victim suffered physical, mental, or
3 emotional impairment is not an element of the offense.

4 "Cruelly" means inhumane or sadistic, infliction of, or
5 subjection to, extreme physical, mental, or emotional pain,
6 motivated by an intent to create, increase, or prolong the
7 pain, suffering, or agony of a person.

8 (d) (1) Defenses. Torture does not include:

9 (A) reasonable parental discipline; or

10 (B) any medical examination or procedure that is
11 conducted by a physician, nurse, medical or hospital
12 personnel, parent, or caretaker for purposes and in a
13 manner consistent with reasonable medical standards and
14 care.

15 (2) A victim under the age of 18 years cannot consent to
16 torture as defined in this Section.

17 (e) (1) Sentence. Torture is a Class X felony.

18 (2) An offender under the age of 18 years at the time of
19 the commission of the offense shall be sentenced under Section
20 5-4.5-105 of the Unified Code of Corrections.