

## Session 126 - (2025-2026)

### **S 0723 General Bill, By Blackmon, Climer, Kennedy, Reichenbach, Rice, Zell, Garrett and Walker**

#### **Summary: CSAM penalties**

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 16-15-395, RELATING TO FIRST DEGREE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A MINOR DEFINED; PRESUMPTIONS; DEFENSES; PENALTIES, SO AS TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM PENALTY TO FIVE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT; BY AMENDING SECTION 16-15-405, RELATING TO SECOND DEGREE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A MINOR DEFINED; PRESUMPTIONS; DEFENSES; PENALTIES, SO AS TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM PENALTY TO THREE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 16-15-410, RELATING TO THIRD DEGREE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A MINOR DEFINED; PENALTIES; EXCEPTION, SO AS TO ESTABLISH PENALTIES BASED ON THE NUMBER OF IMAGES POSSESSED, INCLUDING A PENALTY OF UP TO TEN YEARS IF THERE ARE ONE TO TWENTY-FIVE IMAGES, ONE TO TEN YEARS IF THERE ARE TWENTY-SIX TO TWO HUNDRED FIFTY IMAGES, AND A PENALTY OF TWO TO TEN YEARS IF THERE ARE MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED FIFTY IMAGES; AND TO ESTABLISH THAT A PERSON WHO IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER AND VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF THE SECTION, UPON CONVICTION, MUST SERVE A MINIMUM OF FIVE YEARS.

<b>12/10/25</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Prefiled</b>
<b>12/10/25</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Referred to Committee on Judiciary</b>
<b>01/13/26</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 32)</b>
<b>01/13/26</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Referred to Committee on Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 32)</b>
<b>02/18/26</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 8)</b>
<b>02/24/26</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Committee Amendment Adopted</b>
<b>02/24/26</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Amended (Senate Journal-page 15)</b>
<b>02/24/26</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Read second time (Senate Journal-page 15)</b>
<b>02/24/26</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Roll call Ayes-44 Nays-0 (Senate Journal-page 15)</b>
<b>02/25/26</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Read third time and sent to House (Senate Journal-page 15)</b>
<b>02/26/26</b>	<b>House</b>	<b>Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 16)</b>
<b>02/26/26</b>	<b>House</b>	<b>Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 16)</b>