



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

AMENDED
 FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2459

manslaughter; suicide assistance; violation

Purpose

An emergency measure that expands the definition of *manslaughter* to include intentionally providing advice or encouragement that a minor uses to die by suicide.

Background

A person commits *manslaughter* by 1) recklessly causing the death of another person; 2) committing second degree murder, under specified circumstances, on a sudden quarrel or heat of passion resulting from adequate provocation; 3) intentionally providing the physical means that another person uses to commit suicide, with the knowledge that the person intends to commit suicide; 4) committing second degree murder, under specified circumstances, while being coerced to do so by the use or threatened immediate use of unlawful deadly physical force on the person or a third person that a reasonable person in the situation would have been unable to resist; or 5) knowingly or recklessly causing the death of an unborn child by any physical injury to the mother. Manslaughter is a class 2 felony ([A.R.S. § 13-1103](#)).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Classifies, as manslaughter and a class 2 felony, a person who is at least 18 years old intentionally providing advice or encouragement that a minor uses to die by suicide with the knowledge that the minor intends to die by suicide.
2. Makes technical changes.
3. Becomes effective on signature of the Governor, if the emergency clause is enacted.

Amendments Adopted by Committee of the Whole

Adds an emergency clause.

House Action

JUD 2/3/21 DP 10-0-0-0
 3rd Read 2/11/21 59-0-1

Senate Action

JUD 3/4/21 DP 8-0-0

Prepared by Senate Research
 March 2, 2021
 JA/gs