

**Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Thursday, January 3, 2019**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1183
(Representatives Kading, Blum, Meier, Schneider, Vetter)
(Senators O. Larsen, D. Larson)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 12.1-32-02.1, sections 19-03.1-23 and 19-03.1-23.4, paragraph 3 of subdivision e of subsection 1 of section 19-03.1-36, subdivision e of subsection 5 of section 19-03.1-36, subsection 1 of section 19-03.1-45, subsection 2 of section 29-29.5-08, and subsection 29 of section 40-05-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to mandatory sentences for offenses relating to controlled substances; and to repeal section 19-03.1-23.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to deferred imposition of sentence and suspension of sentence.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 12.1-32-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a term of imprisonment must be imposed upon an offender and served without benefit of parole when:
 - a. In the course of committing an offense, the offender inflicts or attempts to inflict bodily injury upon another, threatens or menaces another with imminent bodily injury with a dangerous weapon, explosive, destructive device, or firearm; or
 - b. The offender possesses or has within immediate reach and control a dangerous weapon, explosive, destructive device, or firearm while in the course of committing any felony offense under subsection 1, 3, or 8~~7~~ of section 19-03.1-23.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 19-03.1-23 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

19-03.1-23. Prohibited acts A—Mandatory terms of imprisonment and fines—Unclassified offenses - Penalties.

1. Except as authorized by this chapter, it is unlawful for a person to willfully, as defined in section 12.1-02-02, manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to manufacture or deliver, a controlled substance, or to deliver, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance by means of the internet, but a person who violates section 12-46-24 or 12-47-21 may not be prosecuted under this subsection. A person who violates this subsection with respect to:
 - a. A controlled substance classified in schedule I or II which is a narcotic drug, or methamphetamine, is guilty of a class B felony and must be sentenced:
 - (1) ~~For a second offense, to imprisonment for at least three years.~~
 - (2) ~~For a third or subsequent offense, to imprisonment for ten years.~~
 - b. Any other controlled substance classified in schedule I, II, or III, or a controlled substance analog is guilty of a class B felony. ~~Except for a person who manufactures, delivers, or possesses with the intent to manufacture or deliver marijuana, any person found guilty under this subdivision must be sentenced:~~
 - (1) ~~For a second offense, to imprisonment for at least two years.~~

- ~~(2) For a third or subsequent offense, to imprisonment for five years.~~
 - c. A substance classified in schedule IV, is guilty of a class C felony ~~and must be sentenced:~~
 - ~~(1) For a second offense, to imprisonment for at least three months.~~
 - ~~(2) For a third offense, to imprisonment for at least six months.~~
 - ~~(3) For a fourth or subsequent offense, to imprisonment for three years.~~
 - d. A substance classified in schedule V, is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
- 2. A prior misdemeanor conviction under subsection ~~87~~ or a prior conviction under subsection 3 or 4 of section 19-03.4-03 may not be considered a prior offense under ~~subsections~~subsection 1 and 4.
- 3. Except as authorized by this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to willfully, as defined in section 12.1-02-02, create, deliver, distribute, or dispense a counterfeit substance by means of the internet or any other means, or possess with intent to deliver, a counterfeit substance by means of the internet or any other means, but any person who violates section 12-46-24 or 12-47-21 may not be prosecuted under this subsection. Any person who violates this subsection with respect to:
 - a. A counterfeit substance classified in schedule I, II, or III, is guilty of a class B felony.
 - b. A counterfeit substance classified in schedule IV, is guilty of a class C felony.
 - c. A counterfeit substance classified in schedule V, is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
- 4.
 - ~~a. For second or subsequent offenses, in addition to any other penalty imposed under this section, if the person who violates this chapter was at least twenty one years of age at the time of the offense, and delivered a controlled substance to a person under the age of eighteen, the person is subject to, and the court shall impose a term of imprisonment of at least four years.~~
 - b. ~~Which is to run consecutively to any other sentence imposed. It is not a defense that the defendant did not know the age of a person protected under subdivision a.~~
 - c. ~~The penalty in subdivision a does not apply to a person who manufactures, delivers, or possesses with the intent to manufacture or deliver marijuana.~~
- 5. A person at least eighteen years of age who solicits, induces, intimidates, employs, hires, or uses a person under eighteen years of age to aid or assist in the manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver a controlled substance for the purpose of receiving consideration or payment for the manufacture or delivery of any controlled substance is guilty of a class B felony ~~and must be sentenced:~~
 - ~~a. For a second or subsequent offense, to imprisonment for at least three years.~~
 - b. It is not a defense to a violation of this subsection that the defendant did not know the age of a person protected under this subsection.
- ~~6-5.~~ Except for a prior conviction equivalent to a misdemeanor violation of subsection ~~87~~ or a prior conviction under subsection 3 or 4 of section 19-03.4-03, a violation of this title or a law of another state or the federal government which is equivalent to an offense with respect to the manufacture, delivery, or intent to deliver a controlled substance under this title committed while the offender was an adult and which resulted in a plea or finding of guilt must be considered a prior offense under ~~subsections~~subsection 1, 4, and 5. The prior offense must be

alleged in the complaint, information, or indictment. The plea or finding of guilt for the prior offense must have occurred before the date of the commission of the offense or offenses charged in the complaint, information, or indictment.

7-6. It is unlawful for a person to willfully, as defined in section 12.1-02-02:

- a. Serve as an agent, intermediary, or other entity that causes the internet to be used to bring together a buyer and seller to engage in the delivery, distribution, or dispensing of a controlled substance in a manner not authorized by this chapter; or
- b. Offer to fill or refill a prescription for a controlled substance based solely on a consumer's completion of an online medical questionnaire.

A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a class C felony.

8-7. a. It is unlawful for any person to willfully, as defined in section 12.1-02-02, possess a controlled substance or a controlled substance analog unless the substance was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a valid prescription or order of a practitioner while acting in the course of the practitioner's professional practice, or except as otherwise authorized by this chapter, but any person who violates section 12-46-24 or 12-47-21 may not be prosecuted under this subsection.

b. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any person who violates this subsection is guilty of a class A misdemeanor for the first offense under this subsection and a class C felony for a second or subsequent offense under this subsection.

c. If, at the time of the offense the person is in or on the real property comprising a public or private elementary or secondary school or a public career and technical education school, the person is guilty of a class B felony, unless the offense involves marijuana.

d. A person who violates this subsection regarding possession of marijuana is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

e. If an individual is sentenced to the legal and physical custody of the department of corrections and rehabilitation under this subsection, the department may place the individual in a drug and alcohol treatment program designated by the department. Upon the successful completion of the drug and alcohol treatment program, the department shall release the individual from imprisonment to begin any court-ordered period of probation.

f. If the individual is not subject to any court-ordered probation, the court shall order the individual to serve the remainder of the sentence of imprisonment on supervised probation subject to the terms and conditions imposed by the court.

g. Probation under this subsection may include placement in another facility, treatment program, or drug court. If an individual is placed in another facility or treatment program upon release from imprisonment, the remainder of the sentence must be considered as time spent in custody.

h. An individual incarcerated under this subsection as a result of a second probation revocation is not eligible for release from imprisonment upon the successful completion of treatment.

i. A person who violates this subsection regarding possession of five or fewer capsules, pills, or tablets of a schedule II, III, IV, or V controlled substance or controlled substance analog is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

9-8. Except as provided by section 19-03.1-45, a court may order a person who violates this chapter or chapter 19-03.4 to undergo a drug addiction evaluation by a licensed addiction

counselor. The evaluation must indicate the prospects for rehabilitation and whether addiction treatment is required. If ordered, the evaluation must be submitted to the court before imposing punishment for a felony violation or a misdemeanor violation. ~~A court shall order a person who violates subdivision e of subsection 8 to undergo the drug addiction evaluation.~~

- ~~10-9.~~ If a person pleads guilty or is found guilty of a first offense regarding possession of one ounce [28.35 grams] or less of marijuana and a judgment of guilt is entered, a court, upon motion, shall seal the court record of that conviction if the person is not subsequently convicted within two years of a further violation of this chapter. Once sealed, the court record may not be opened even by order of the court.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 19-03.1-23.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

19-03.1-23.4. Overdose prevention and immunity.

An individual is immune from criminal prosecution under sections 19-03.1-22.1, 19-03.1-22.3, 19-03.1-22.5, subsection ~~8~~7 of section 19-03.1-23, subsection 3 of section 19-03.2-03, and section 19-03.4-03 if in good faith that individual seeks medical assistance for another individual in need of emergency medical assistance due to a drug overdose. To receive immunity under this section, the individual receiving immunity must have remained on the scene until assistance arrived, cooperated with the medical treatment of the reported drug overdosed individual, and the overdosed individual must have been in a condition a layperson would reasonably believe to be a drug overdose requiring immediate medical assistance. Neither the individual who experiences a drug-related overdose and is in need of emergency medical assistance nor the cooperating individual seeking medical assistance may be charged or prosecuted for the criminal offenses listed in this section or for the sharing of controlled substances among those present. Immunity from prosecution under this section does not apply unless the evidence for the charge or prosecution was obtained as a result of the drug-related overdose and the need for emergency medical assistance. Good faith does not include seeking medical assistance during the course of the execution of an arrest warrant or search warrant or during a lawful search.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Paragraph 3 of subdivision e of subsection 1 of section 19-03.1-36 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- (3) A conveyance is not subject to forfeiture for a violation of subsection ~~8~~7 of section 19-03.1-23 or subsection 3 of section 19-03.2-03.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Subdivision e of subsection 5 of section 19-03.1-36 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- e. Use the property, including controlled substances, imitation controlled substances, and plants forfeited under subsections 6 and 7, in enforcement of this chapter. However, in a case involving the delivery of a forfeited controlled substance by a law enforcement officer or a person acting as an agent of a law enforcement officer, no prosecution or conviction for simple possession of a controlled substance under subsection ~~6~~5 of section 19-03.1-23 may be based upon the forfeited controlled substances supplied by the law enforcement officer or the officer's agent.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 19-03.1-45 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. If a person has pled guilty or has been found guilty of a felony violation of subsection ~~8~~7 of section 19-03.1-23, if that person has not previously pled guilty or been found guilty of any offense involving the use, possession, manufacture, or delivery of a controlled substance or of any other felony offense of this or another state or the federal government, the court shall impose a period of probation up to the length authorized under section 12.1-32-06.1 with a

suspended execution of a sentence of imprisonment, a sentence to probation, or an order deferring imposition of sentence.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 29-29.5-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. After consideration of an informant agreement, ~~notwithstanding section 19-03.1-23.2,~~ a court may defer imposition of sentence or suspend a portion of a minimum mandatory sentence when a confidential informant has substantially complied with an informant agreement.

SECTION 8. AMENDMENT. Subsection 29 of section 40-05-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

29. Marijuana possession. To prohibit by ordinance any person, except a person operating a motor vehicle, from possessing not more than one ounce [28.35 grams] of marijuana, as defined by section 19-03.1-01, within the jurisdiction of a city, and to prescribe the punishment, provided the penalty assessed is subject to subsection ~~409~~ of section 19-03.1-23.

SECTION 9. REPEAL. Section 19-03.1-23.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1183.

House Vote: Yeas 81 Nays 9 Absent 4

Senate Vote: Yeas 44 Nays 1 Absent 2

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2019.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2019.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2019,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State