

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 SENATE BILL 559

By: Marlatt

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to assault; allowing the prosecution  
8 of assault for certain offenses; providing penalties;  
9 providing affirmative defense; providing for  
10 codification; and providing an effective date.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

12 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
13 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 644.2 of Title 21, unless there  
14 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

15 A. For the purpose of this section, the term "another", when it  
16 refers to the victim of assault in Section 641 of this title, shall  
17 include a human embryo or fetus at any stage of gestation in utero.

18 B. Assault shall include the act of causing a child to be born  
19 addicted to or harmed by a narcotic drug, as defined in paragraph 26  
20 of Section 2-101 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes, when the  
21 addiction or harm was caused by the illegal use of a narcotic drug  
22 by the child's mother while pregnant.

23 C. Any person who commits assault as established in this  
24 section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment

1 in a county jail not exceeding thirty (30) days, or by a fine of not  
2 more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by both fine and  
3 imprisonment.

4 D. If the illegal use of a narcotic drug by the pregnant woman  
5 results in the death of the child, the assault will be a felony  
6 offense punishable by imprisonment in the Department of Corrections  
7 not to exceed five (5) years, or by imprisonment in a county jail  
8 not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine of not more than Five  
9 Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or both such fine and imprisonment.

10 E. Evidence that the woman is actively enrolled in an addiction  
11 recovery program before the child is born, remained in the program  
12 after delivery, and successfully completed the program, regardless of  
13 whether the child was born addicted to or harmed by the narcotic  
14 drug shall be considered in mitigation of punishment.

15 F. This section shall not apply to any lawful act or omission  
16 by a pregnant woman with respect to an embryo or fetus with which  
17 she is pregnant, or to any lawful medical or surgical procedure to  
18 which a pregnant woman consents, performed by a health care  
19 professional who is licensed to perform such a procedure.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

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