



## 2024 South Dakota Legislature

# Senate Bill 97

Introduced by: **Senator Reed**

1 **An Act to establish the admissibility of evidence of similar crimes in sexual assault**  
 2 **cases.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That chapter 19-19 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

5 **(a) Permitted uses. In a criminal case in which a defendant is accused of**  
 6 sexual assault, the court may admit evidence that the defendant committed any other  
 7 sexual assault. The evidence may be considered on any matter to which it is relevant.

8 **(b) Disclosure to the defendant. If the prosecutor intends to offer this evidence,**  
 9 the prosecutor must disclose it to the defendant, including witnesses' statements or a  
 10 summary of the expected testimony. The prosecutor must do so at least fifteen days  
 11 before trial or at a later time that the court allows for good cause.

12 **(c) Effect on other rules. This rule does not limit the admission or**  
 13 **consideration of evidence under any other rule.**

14 **(d) Definition of sexual assault. In this section, "sexual assault" means a crime**  
 15 under federal law or state law involving:

- 16 (1) Any conduct prohibited by chapter 22-22;  
 17 (2) Contact, without consent, between any part of the defendant's body or an object  
 18 and another person's genitals or anus;  
 19 (3) Contact, without consent, between the defendant's genitals or anus and any part  
 20 of another person's body;  
 21 (4) Deriving sexual pleasure or gratification from inflicting death, bodily injury, or  
 22 physical pain on another person; or  
 23 (5) An attempt or conspiracy to engage in conduct described in subdivisions (1)  
 24 through (4).