

HB 831 -- Abuse of a Child

Sponsor: Jones (50)

Currently, a person commits the offense of abuse or neglect of a child if he or she knowingly causes a child less than 18 years of age to suffer physical or mental injury as a result of abuse or neglect or places the child in a situation in which he or she may suffer physical or mental injury as a result of abuse or neglect. The offense of abuse or neglect of a child is a class C felony, unless the person has previously been found guilty of this offense or the injury inflicted on the child is a serious emotional or physical injury in which case it is a class B felony. This bill increases the penalty to a class A felony if the child dies as a result of injuries sustained from the abuse or neglect.

The bill also revises the definition of "dangerous felony" to include the felony abuse of a child if the child dies as a result of injuries sustained from the abuse or neglect.