

By Senator Book

32-00085-20

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1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to aggravated child abuse; amending s.  
3 827.03, F.S.; redefining the term "aggravated child  
4 abuse"; providing a criminal penalty; providing an  
5 effective date.

6  
7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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9 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
10 827.03, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (a) of  
11 subsection (2) of that section is republished, to read:

12 827.03 Abuse, aggravated abuse, and neglect of a child;  
13 penalties.—

14 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

15 (a) "Aggravated child abuse" occurs when a person:

16 1. Commits aggravated battery on a child;

17 2. Willfully tortures, maliciously punishes, or willfully  
18 and unlawfully cages a child; ~~or~~

19 3. Knowingly or willfully abuses a child and in so doing  
20 causes great bodily harm, permanent disability, or permanent  
21 disfigurement to the child;

22 4. Willfully obstructs a child's breathing as punishment,  
23 including, but not limited to, covering the child's nose or  
24 mouth; or

25 5. Willfully causes injury to a child's sexual organs,  
26 excluding the child's buttocks, as punishment, including, but  
27 not limited to, hitting, pinching, or burning.

28 (2) OFFENSES.—

29 (a) A person who commits aggravated child abuse commits a

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30 felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.  
31 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

32 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2020.