

Committee on Criminal Justice

CS/SB 444 — Indecent, Lewd, or Lascivious Touching

by Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee and Senators Perry and Book

The bill creates s. 794.051, F.S., which provides that it is a third degree felony for a person 24 years of age or older to intentionally touch in a lewd or lascivious manner the breasts, genitals, genital area, or buttocks, or the clothing covering them, of a person 16 or 17 years of age, or to force or entice such person to so touch the perpetrator.

This crime does not apply to a person 16 or 17 years of age who has had the disability of nonage removed.

This crime is ranked as a level 4 in the offense severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment Code.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect October 1, 2022.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 117-0