

KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ADAM GREGG LT GOVERNOR

April 28, 2023

The Honorable Paul Pate Secretary of State of Iowa State Capitol Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I hereby transmit:

House File 176, an Act relating to continuous sexual abuse of a child, and making penalties applicable.

The above House File 176 is hereby approved on this date.

Sincerely,

Kim Reynold Governor of Iowa

cc: Secretary of the Senate

Clerk of the House



House File 176

AN ACT

RELATING TO CONTINUOUS SEXUAL ABUSE OF A CHILD, AND MAKING PENALTIES APPLICABLE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 709.23, subsections 1, 2, 3, and 6, Code 2023, are amended to read as follows:

- 1. A person eighteen years of age or older commits continuous sexual abuse of a child when the person engages in any combination of three or more acts of sexual abuse in violation of section 709.3 or 709.4, with the same child, and at least thirty days have elapsed between the first and last acts of sexual abuse.
- 2. A person who commits continuous sexual abuse of a child is, upon conviction, guilty of a class "B" felony. Notwithstanding section 902.9, subsection 1, paragraph "b", a person convicted of a violation of this section involving any combination of three or more acts of sexual abuse that includes a violation of section 709.3 or 709.4 shall be confined for no more than fifty years.
- 3. If a jury is the trier of fact, members of the jury must unanimously agree that three or more acts of sexual abuse in violation of section 709.3 or 709.4 were committed with the same child and at least thirty days have elapsed between the first and last acts of sexual abuse. The jury does not need to unanimously agree which specific acts were committed or the exact date when those acts were committed.

- 6. Each act of sexual abuse committed under section 709.3 or 709.4 shall be considered a lesser included offense to the crime of continuous sexual abuse of a child under this section.
- Sec. 2. Section 902.12, subsection 1, Code 2023, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. g. Continuous sexual abuse of a child in violation of section 709.23.

PAT GRASSLEY

Speaker of the House

AMY SINCLAIR

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 176, Ninetieth General Assembly.

MEGHAN NELSON

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved Apr. 28 n., 2023

KIM REYNOLDS

Governor