

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

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HOUSE BILL 1134

Short Title: Secret Peeping on Minor/Increase Punishment. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Shepard.

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Judiciary 2, if favorable, Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

May 4, 2026

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT FOR SECRET PEEPING OFFENSES IN WHICH THE VICTIM IS A MINOR.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-202, as amended by S.L. 2025-70, reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-202. **Secretly peeping into room occupied by another person.**

(a) ~~Any~~ Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any person who shall peep secretly into any room occupied by another person shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Any person who commits a violation of this subsection in which the victim is a minor shall be guilty of a Class A1 misdemeanor.

(a1) Unless covered by another provision of law providing greater punishment, any person who secretly or surreptitiously peeps underneath or through the clothing being worn by another person, through the use of a mirror or other device, for the purpose of viewing the body of, or the undergarments worn by, that other person without their consent shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Any person who commits a violation of this subsection in which the victim is a minor shall be guilty of a Class A1 misdemeanor.

(b) The following definitions apply in this section:

(1) Minor. – An individual who is less than 18 years of age.

(2) Photographic image. – Any photograph or photographic reproduction, still or moving, or any videotape, motion picture, or live television transmission, or any digital image of any individual.

~~(2)~~(3) Private area of an individual. – The naked or undergarment clad genitals, pubic area, buttocks, or female breast of that individual.

~~(3)~~(4) Room. – Includes, but is not limited to, a bedroom, a rest room, a bathroom, a shower, a dressing room, a dressing stall, a cubicle, or other similar area designed to provide privacy.

~~(4)~~(5) Under circumstances in which that individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy. – Means either of the following:

a. Circumstances in which a reasonable person would believe that he or she could disrobe in privacy, without being concerned that a photographic image of a private area of the individual was being created.



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1                   b.       Circumstances in which a reasonable person would believe that a  
2                   private area of the individual would not be visible to the public,  
3                   regardless of whether that person is in a public or private place.

4       (c)       Unless covered by another provision of law providing greater punishment, any person  
5       who, while in possession of any device which may be used to create a photographic image and  
6       with the intent to create a photographic image, shall secretly peep into any room shall be guilty  
7       of a Class A1 misdemeanor. Any person who commits a violation of this subsection in which the  
8       victim is a minor shall be guilty of a Class I felony.

9       (d)       Unless covered by another provision of law providing greater punishment, any person  
10       who, while secretly peeping into any room, uses any device to create a photographic image of  
11       another person in that room for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of any  
12       person shall be guilty of a Class I felony. Any person who commits a violation of this subsection  
13       in which the victim is a minor shall be guilty of a Class H felony.

14       (e1)      Unless covered under some other provision of law providing greater punishment, any  
15       person who, with the intent to create a photographic image of a private area of an individual  
16       without the individual's consent, knowingly does so under circumstances in which the individual  
17       has a reasonable expectation of privacy shall be guilty of a Class I felony. Any person who  
18       commits a violation of this subsection in which the victim is a minor shall be guilty of a Class H  
19       felony.

20       (f)       ~~Any~~ Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any person who, for the purpose  
21       of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of any person, secretly or surreptitiously uses or installs  
22       in a room any device that can be used to create a photographic image with the intent to capture  
23       the image of another without their consent shall be guilty of a Class I felony. Any person who  
24       commits a violation of this subsection in which the victim is a minor shall be guilty of a Class H  
25       felony.

26       (g)       ~~Any~~ Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any person who knowingly  
27       possesses a photographic image that the person knows, or has reason to believe, was obtained in  
28       violation of this section shall be guilty of a Class I felony. Any person who commits a violation  
29       of this subsection in which the victim is a minor shall be guilty of a Class H felony.

30       (h)       ~~Any~~ Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any person who disseminates or  
31       allows to be disseminated images that the person knows, or should have known, were obtained  
32       as a result of the violation of this section shall be guilty of a Class H felony if the dissemination  
33       is without the consent of the person in the photographic image. Any person who commits a  
34       violation of this subsection in which the victim is a minor shall be guilty of a Class G felony.

35       ...."

36               **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
37       Public Safety the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in nonrecurring funds to be used  
38       for costs incurred by the Department from developing and implementing a marketing campaign  
39       to make the public aware of G.S. 14-202, as amended by Section 1 of this act.

40               **SECTION 3.** Section 1 of this act becomes effective December 1, 2026, and applies  
41       to offenses committed on or after that date. The remainder of this act becomes effective July 1,  
42       2026.