



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB5293

Introduced 2/10/2026, by Rep. Rita Mayfield

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 2310/2310-544 new  
720 ILCS 5/11-27 new

Amends the Department of Public Health Powers and Duties Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Provides that the Department of Public Health shall conduct a Grooming Awareness Public Educational and Outreach Program, which is a public education and outreach program concerning the grooming of children, including, but not limited to, grooming behaviors and how to recognize, prevent, and report grooming behaviors. Provides that the Department of Public Health may work with other organizations to help conduct the Program which may include, but is not limited to, the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault (ICASA) or the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE). Provides that the Department of Public Health may adopt rules that are necessary to conduct the Program. Amends the Criminal Code of 2012. Creates the offense of failure to report grooming of a child. Provides that a person 18 years of age or older commits the offense when he or she personally observes the grooming between a person whom he or she knows is 18 years of age or older and a person he or she knows is a child under 17 years of age, and knowingly fails to report the grooming to law enforcement. Provides that the offense does not apply to a person who makes timely and reasonable efforts to stop the sex offense or unlawful sexual conduct by reporting the grooming or sexual conduct in conformance with the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act or by reporting the sex offense or causing a report to be made, to medical or law enforcement authorities or anyone who is a mandated reporter under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. Provides that a person who commits failure to report grooming of a child is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor for the first violation and a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent violation. Provides that nothing in the provision shall be construed to allow prosecution of a person who personally observes the act of grooming and assists with an investigation and any subsequent prosecution of the offender.

LRB104 18644 RLC 32087 b

1 AN ACT concerning grooming.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Public Health Powers and  
5 Duties Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is  
6 amended by adding Section 2310-544 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 2310/2310-544 new)

8 Sec. 2310-544. Grooming Awareness Public Educational and  
9 Outreach Program.

10 (a) As used in this Section, "grooming" has the meaning  
11 ascribed to that term in Section 11-25 of the Criminal Code of  
12 2012.

13 (b) The Department of Public Health shall conduct a  
14 Grooming Awareness Public Educational and Outreach Program,  
15 which is a public education and outreach program concerning  
16 the grooming of children, including, but not limited to,  
17 grooming behaviors and how to recognize, prevent, and report  
18 grooming behaviors. The Department of Public Health may work  
19 with other organizations to help conduct the Program which may  
20 include, but is not limited to, the Illinois Coalition Against  
21 Sexual Assault (ICASA) or the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual  
22 Exploitation (CAASE).

23 (c) The Department of Public Health may adopt rules that

1 are necessary to conduct the Program.

2 Section 10. The Criminal Code of 2012 is amended by adding  
3 Section 11-27 as follows:

4 (720 ILCS 5/11-27 new)

5 Sec. 11-27. Failure to report grooming of a child.

6 (a) As used in this Section:

7 "Child" means any person under 17 years of age.

8 "Grooming" has the same meaning for that term in Section  
9 11-25 of this Code.

10 "Sex offense" means any violation of Article 11 of this  
11 Code, including grooming.

12 "Sexual conduct" means masturbation, sexual conduct, or  
13 sexual penetration as defined in Section 11-0.1 of this Code.

14 (b) A person 18 years of age or older commits failure to  
15 report grooming of a child when he or she personally observes  
16 the grooming between a person whom he or she knows is 18 years  
17 of age or older and a person he or she knows is a child, and  
18 knowingly fails to report the grooming to law enforcement.

19 (c) This Section does not apply to a person who makes  
20 timely and reasonable efforts to stop the sex offense or  
21 unlawful sexual conduct by reporting the grooming or sexual  
22 conduct in conformance with the Abused and Neglected Child  
23 Reporting Act or by reporting the sex offense or causing a  
24 report to be made, to medical or law enforcement authorities

1 or anyone who is a mandated reporter under Section 4 of the  
2 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

3 (d) A person may not be charged with the offense of failure  
4 to report grooming of a child until the person who committed  
5 the offense is charged with grooming, criminal sexual assault,  
6 aggravated criminal sexual assault, predatory criminal sexual  
7 assault of a child, criminal sexual abuse, or aggravated  
8 criminal sexual abuse.

9 (e) It is an affirmative defense to a charge of failure to  
10 report grooming of a child that the person who personally  
11 observed the grooming had a reasonable apprehension that  
12 timely action to stop the sex offense or unlawful sexual  
13 conduct would result in the imminent infliction of death,  
14 great bodily harm, permanent disfigurement, or permanent  
15 disability to that person or another in retaliation for  
16 reporting.

17 (f) Sentence. A person who commits failure to report  
18 grooming of a child is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor for the  
19 first violation and a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent  
20 violation.

21 (g) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to allow  
22 prosecution of a person who personally observes the act of  
23 grooming and assists with an investigation and any subsequent  
24 prosecution of the offender.