

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 12-141—sHB 5504

*Judiciary Committee*

**AN ACT CONCERNING COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF  
A MINOR**

**SUMMARY:** This act creates the class C felony (see Table on Penalties) of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor. A human being and, where appropriate, a public or private corporation, limited liability company, or partnership commits the crime by knowingly buying space to advertise for a commercial sex act that depicts a minor. (The act does not define “minor” but presumably it means a person under age 18.) The act specifies that it is not a defense to prosecution that the accused (1) did not know the depicted person’s age or (2) relied on his or her apparent age or on oral or written, non-governmental representations of such.

It permits the accused to avoid conviction by proving he or she made a reasonable, bona fide attempt to ascertain the depicted person’s age by requiring him or her to produce a government-issued identity card and keeping and producing a copy.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012

**DEFINITIONS**

Under the act:

1. “advertisement for a commercial sex act” or “advertisement” means an advertisement or offer in electronic or print media that includes an explicit or implicit offer for a commercial sex act to occur in Connecticut;
2. “commercial sex act” means an act of sexual contact or intercourse for which something of value is given to, or received by, anyone; and
3. “depiction” means any photograph, film, videotape, visual material or printed material.

OLR Tracking: SP:KM:VR:eh/ro