

Senate Bill 1028

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY (at the request of Senator Tim Knopp, Jenn Woodward)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Modifies definition of "abuse" for purposes of child abuse to include verbal abuse. Defines "verbal abuse."

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to verbal abuse of children; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 419B.005.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 419B.005, as amended by section 8, chapter 90, Oregon Laws 2022, is amended
5 to read:

6 419B.005. As used in ORS 419B.005 to 419B.050, unless the context requires otherwise:

7 (1)(a) "Abuse" means:

8 (A) Any assault, as defined in ORS chapter 163, of a child and any physical injury to a child
9 which has been caused by other than accidental means, including any injury which appears to be
10 at variance with the explanation given of the injury.

11 (B) Any mental injury to a child, which shall include only observable and substantial impairment
12 of the child's mental or psychological ability to function caused by cruelty to the child, with due
13 regard to the culture of the child.

14 (C) Rape of a child, which includes but is not limited to rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual pene-
15 tration and incest, as those acts are described in ORS chapter 163.

16 (D) Sexual abuse, as described in ORS chapter 163.

17 (E) Sexual exploitation, including but not limited to:

18 (i) Contributing to the sexual delinquency of a minor, as defined in ORS chapter 163, and any
19 other conduct which allows, employs, authorizes, permits, induces or encourages a child to engage
20 in the performing for people to observe or the photographing, filming, tape recording or other ex-
21 hibition which, in whole or in part, depicts sexual conduct or contact, as defined in ORS 167.002 or
22 described in ORS 163.665 and 163.670, sexual abuse involving a child or rape of a child, but not in-
23 cluding any conduct which is part of any investigation conducted pursuant to ORS 419B.020 or
24 which is designed to serve educational or other legitimate purposes; and

25 (ii) Allowing, permitting, encouraging or hiring a child to engage in prostitution as described in
26 ORS 167.007 or a commercial sex act as defined in ORS 163.266, to purchase sex with a minor as
27 described in ORS 163.413 or to engage in commercial sexual solicitation as described in ORS 167.008.

28 (F) Negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child, including but not limited to the failure to
29 provide adequate food, clothing, shelter or medical care that is likely to endanger the health or
30 welfare of the child.

31 *[(G) Threatened harm to a child, which means subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to*

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 *the child's health or welfare.]*

2 [(H)] (G) Buying or selling a person under 18 years of age as described in ORS 163.537.

3 [(I)] (H) Permitting a person under 18 years of age to enter or remain in or upon premises where
4 methamphetamines are being manufactured.

5 [(J)] (I) Unlawful exposure to a controlled substance, as defined in ORS 475.005, or to the un-
6 lawful manufacturing of a cannabinoid extract, as defined in ORS 475C.009, that subjects a child to
7 a substantial risk of harm to the child's health or safety.

8 **(J) Verbal abuse.**

9 (b) "Abuse" does not include reasonable discipline unless the discipline results in one of the
10 conditions described in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

11 (2) "Child" means an unmarried person who:

12 (a) Is under 18 years of age; or

13 (b) Is under 21 years of age and residing in or receiving care or services at a child-caring
14 agency as that term is defined in ORS 418.205.

15 (3) "Higher education institution" means:

16 (a) A community college as defined in ORS 341.005;

17 (b) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;

18 (c) The Oregon Health and Science University; and

19 (d) A private institution of higher education located in Oregon.

20 (4)(a) "Investigation" means a detailed inquiry into or assessment of the safety of a child alleged
21 to have experienced abuse.

22 (b) "Investigation" does not include screening activities conducted upon the receipt of a report.

23 (5) "Law enforcement agency" means:

24 (a) A city or municipal police department.

25 (b) A county sheriff's office.

26 (c) The Oregon State Police.

27 (d) A police department established by a university under ORS 352.121 or 353.125.

28 (e) A county juvenile department.

29 (6) "Public or private official" means:

30 (a) Physician or physician assistant licensed under ORS chapter 677 or naturopathic physician,
31 including any intern or resident.

32 (b) Dentist.

33 (c) School employee, including an employee of a higher education institution.

34 (d) Licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, nurse's aide, home health aide
35 or employee of an in-home health service.

36 (e) Employee of the Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Early Learning
37 Division, Department of Education, Youth Development Division, Office of Child Care, the Oregon
38 Youth Authority, a local health department, a community mental health program, a community de-
39 velopmental disabilities program, a county juvenile department, a child-caring agency as that term
40 is defined in ORS 418.205 or an alcohol and drug treatment program.

41 (f) Peace officer.

42 (g) Psychologist.

43 (h) Member of the clergy.

44 (i) Regulated social worker.

45 (j) Optometrist.

- 1 (k) Chiropractor.
- 2 (L) Certified provider of foster care, or an employee thereof.
- 3 (m) Attorney.
- 4 (n) Licensed professional counselor.
- 5 (o) Licensed marriage and family therapist.
- 6 (p) Firefighter or emergency medical services provider.
- 7 (q) A court appointed special advocate, as defined in ORS 419A.004.
- 8 (r) A child care provider registered or certified under ORS 329A.030 and 329A.250 to 329A.450.
- 9 (s) An elected official of a branch of government of this state or a state agency, board, com-
10 mission or department of a branch of government of this state or of a city, county or other political
11 subdivision in this state.
- 12 (t) Physical, speech or occupational therapist.
- 13 (u) Audiologist.
- 14 (v) Speech-language pathologist.
- 15 (w) Employee of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission directly involved in investi-
16 gations or discipline by the commission.
- 17 (x) Pharmacist.
- 18 (y) An operator of a preschool recorded program under ORS 329A.255.
- 19 (z) An operator of a school-age recorded program under ORS 329A.255.
- 20 (aa) Employee of a private agency or organization facilitating the provision of respite services,
21 as defined in ORS 418.205, for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney under ORS
22 109.056.
- 23 (bb) An employee of a public or private organization providing child-related services or activ-
24 ities:
 - 25 (A) Including but not limited to an employee of a:
 - 26 (i) Youth group or center;
 - 27 (ii) Scout group or camp;
 - 28 (iii) Summer or day camp;
 - 29 (iv) Survival camp; or
 - 30 (v) Group, center or camp that is operated under the guidance, supervision or auspices of a re-
31 ligious, public or private educational system or a community service organization; and
 - 32 (B) Excluding an employee of a qualified victim services program as defined in ORS 147.600 that
33 provides confidential, direct services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or hu-
34 man trafficking.
- 35 (cc) A coach, assistant coach or trainer of an amateur, semiprofessional or professional athlete,
36 if compensated and if the athlete is a child.
- 37 (dd) Personal support worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.
- 38 (ee) Home care worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.
- 39 (ff) Animal control officer, as defined in ORS 609.500.
- 40 (gg) Member of a school district board, an education service district board or a public charter
41 school governing body.
- 42 (hh) An individual who is paid by a public body, in accordance with ORS 430.215, to provide a
43 service identified in an individualized written service plan of a child with a developmental disability.
- 44 (ii) Referral agent, as defined in ORS 418.351.
- 45 **(7) “Verbal abuse” means to threaten significant physical or emotional harm to a child**

1 **through the use of:**

2 (a) **Derogatory or inappropriate names, insults, verbal assaults, profanity or ridicule; or**

3 (b) **Harassment, coercion, threats, intimidation, humiliation, mental cruelty or inappropriate sexual comments.**

4
5 **SECTION 2.** ORS 419B.005, as amended by section 58, chapter 631, Oregon Laws 2021, section
6 16, chapter 27, Oregon Laws 2022, and section 7, chapter 90, Oregon Laws 2022, is amended to read:
7 419B.005. As used in ORS 419B.005 to 419B.050, unless the context requires otherwise:

8 (1)(a) “Abuse” means:

9 (A) Any assault, as defined in ORS chapter 163, of a child and any physical injury to a child
10 which has been caused by other than accidental means, including any injury which appears to be
11 at variance with the explanation given of the injury.

12 (B) Any mental injury to a child, which shall include only observable and substantial impairment
13 of the child’s mental or psychological ability to function caused by cruelty to the child, with due
14 regard to the culture of the child.

15 (C) Rape of a child, which includes but is not limited to rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual pene-
16 tration and incest, as those acts are described in ORS chapter 163.

17 (D) Sexual abuse, as described in ORS chapter 163.

18 (E) Sexual exploitation, including but not limited to:

19 (i) Contributing to the sexual delinquency of a minor, as defined in ORS chapter 163, and any
20 other conduct which allows, employs, authorizes, permits, induces or encourages a child to engage
21 in the performing for people to observe or the photographing, filming, tape recording or other ex-
22 hibition which, in whole or in part, depicts sexual conduct or contact, as defined in ORS 167.002 or
23 described in ORS 163.665 and 163.670, sexual abuse involving a child or rape of a child, but not in-
24 cluding any conduct which is part of any investigation conducted pursuant to ORS 419B.020 or
25 which is designed to serve educational or other legitimate purposes; and

26 (ii) Allowing, permitting, encouraging or hiring a child to engage in prostitution as described in
27 ORS 167.007 or a commercial sex act as defined in ORS 163.266, to purchase sex with a minor as
28 described in ORS 163.413 or to engage in commercial sexual solicitation as described in ORS 167.008.

29 (F) Negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child, including but not limited to the failure to
30 provide adequate food, clothing, shelter or medical care that is likely to endanger the health or
31 welfare of the child.

32 *[(G) Threatened harm to a child, which means subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to*
33 *the child’s health or welfare.]*

34 *[(H)] (G)* Buying or selling a person under 18 years of age as described in ORS 163.537.

35 *[(I)] (H)* Permitting a person under 18 years of age to enter or remain in or upon premises where
36 methamphetamines are being manufactured.

37 *[(J)] (I)* Unlawful exposure to a controlled substance, as defined in ORS 475.005, or to the un-
38 lawful manufacturing of a cannabinoid extract, as defined in ORS 475C.009, that subjects a child to
39 a substantial risk of harm to the child’s health or safety.

40 **(J) Verbal abuse.**

41 (b) “Abuse” does not include reasonable discipline unless the discipline results in one of the
42 conditions described in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

43 (2) “Child” means an unmarried person who:

44 (a) Is under 18 years of age; or

45 (b) Is under 21 years of age and residing in or receiving care or services at a child-caring

- 1 agency as that term is defined in ORS 418.205.
- 2 (3) “Higher education institution” means:
- 3 (a) A community college as defined in ORS 341.005;
- 4 (b) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;
- 5 (c) The Oregon Health and Science University; and
- 6 (d) A private institution of higher education located in Oregon.
- 7 (4)(a) “Investigation” means a detailed inquiry into or assessment of the safety of a child alleged
- 8 to have experienced abuse.
- 9 (b) “Investigation” does not include screening activities conducted upon the receipt of a report.
- 10 (5) “Law enforcement agency” means:
- 11 (a) A city or municipal police department.
- 12 (b) A county sheriff’s office.
- 13 (c) The Oregon State Police.
- 14 (d) A police department established by a university under ORS 352.121 or 353.125.
- 15 (e) A county juvenile department.
- 16 (6) “Public or private official” means:
- 17 (a) Physician or physician assistant licensed under ORS chapter 677 or naturopathic physician,
- 18 including any intern or resident.
- 19 (b) Dentist.
- 20 (c) School employee, including an employee of a higher education institution.
- 21 (d) Licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, nurse’s aide, home health aide
- 22 or employee of an in-home health service.
- 23 (e) Employee of the Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Department of
- 24 Early Learning and Care, Department of Education, Youth Development Division, Office of Child
- 25 Care, the Oregon Youth Authority, a local health department, a community mental health program,
- 26 a community developmental disabilities program, a county juvenile department, a child-caring
- 27 agency as that term is defined in ORS 418.205 or an alcohol and drug treatment program.
- 28 (f) Peace officer.
- 29 (g) Psychologist.
- 30 (h) Member of the clergy.
- 31 (i) Regulated social worker.
- 32 (j) Optometrist.
- 33 (k) Chiropractor.
- 34 (L) Certified provider of foster care, or an employee thereof.
- 35 (m) Attorney.
- 36 (n) Licensed professional counselor.
- 37 (o) Licensed marriage and family therapist.
- 38 (p) Firefighter or emergency medical services provider.
- 39 (q) A court appointed special advocate, as defined in ORS 419A.004.
- 40 (r) A child care provider registered or certified under ORS 329A.250 to 329A.450.
- 41 (s) An elected official of a branch of government of this state or a state agency, board, com-
- 42 mission or department of a branch of government of this state or of a city, county or other political
- 43 subdivision in this state.
- 44 (t) Physical, speech or occupational therapist.
- 45 (u) Audiologist.

- 1 (v) Speech-language pathologist.
- 2 (w) Employee of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission directly involved in investi-
3 gations or discipline by the commission.
- 4 (x) Pharmacist.
- 5 (y) An operator of a preschool recorded program under ORS 329A.255.
- 6 (z) An operator of a school-age recorded program under ORS 329A.255.
- 7 (aa) Employee of a private agency or organization facilitating the provision of respite services,
8 as defined in ORS 418.205, for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney under ORS
9 109.056.
- 10 (bb) An employee of a public or private organization providing child-related services or activ-
11 ities:
 - 12 (A) Including but not limited to an employee of a:
 - 13 (i) Youth group or center;
 - 14 (ii) Scout group or camp;
 - 15 (iii) Summer or day camp;
 - 16 (iv) Survival camp; or
 - 17 (v) Group, center or camp that is operated under the guidance, supervision or auspices of a re-
18 ligious, public or private educational system or a community service organization; and
 - 19 (B) Excluding an employee of a qualified victim services program as defined in ORS 147.600 that
20 provides confidential, direct services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or hu-
21 man trafficking.
 - 22 (cc) A coach, assistant coach or trainer of an amateur, semiprofessional or professional athlete,
23 if compensated and if the athlete is a child.
 - 24 (dd) Personal support worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.
 - 25 (ee) Home care worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.
 - 26 (ff) Animal control officer, as defined in ORS 609.500.
 - 27 (gg) Member of a school district board, an education service district board or a public charter
28 school governing body.
 - 29 (hh) An individual who is paid by a public body, in accordance with ORS 430.215, to provide a
30 service identified in an individualized written service plan of a child with a developmental disability.
 - 31 (ii) Referral agent, as defined in ORS 418.351.
- 32 **(7) “Verbal abuse” means to threaten significant physical or emotional harm to a child**
33 **through the use of:**
 - 34 **(a) Derogatory or inappropriate names, insults, verbal assaults, profanity or ridicule; or**
 - 35 **(b) Harassment, coercion, threats, intimidation, humiliation, mental cruelty or inappro-**
36 **propriate sexual comments.**
- 37 **SECTION 3. The amendments to ORS 419B.005 by sections 1 and 2 of this 2023 Act apply**
38 **to acts committed on or after the effective date of this 2023 Act.**