



CHAPTER 14
ARTICLE 6A - UNBORN VICTIMS

N.C.G.S. § 14-23.2.

Murder of an unborn child; penalty.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT No amendment history on record	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 05:10 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT fa065715352c4c9d88dfe02d - 3dd8211a24b388a07f9306f7 - 2afa539c151a6bf3
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§ 14-23.2(a) A person who unlawfully causes the death of an unborn child is guilty of the separate offense of murder of an unborn child if the person does any one of the following:

- (1) Willfully and maliciously commits an act with the intent to cause the death of the unborn child.
- (2) Causes the death of the unborn child in perpetration or attempted perpetration of any of the criminal offenses set forth under G.S. 14-17.
- (3) Commits an act causing the death of the unborn child that is inherently dangerous to human life and is done so recklessly and wantonly that it reflects disregard of life.

§ 14-23.2(b) Penalty. - An offense under:

CLASS A FELONY

- (1) Subdivision (a)(1) or (a)(2) of this section shall be a Class A felony, and any person who commits such offense shall be punished with imprisonment in the State's prison for life without parole.
- (2) Subdivision (a)(3) of this section shall be subject to the same sentence as if the person had been convicted of second degree murder pursuant to G.S. 14-17. (2011-60, s. 2.)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS II
1 AUTHORITY

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 14-17	(a)(2)	<i>"the criminal offenses set forth under"</i>

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-23.2 (2026).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-23.2(a) (2026).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

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