



CHAPTER 14
ARTICLE 39 - PROTECTION OF MINORS

N.C.G.S. § 14-318.2.

Child abuse a misdemeanor.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2025-59, s. 2(a) — tenth act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 04:55 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 119c1ca25f890e17a17a50ad - 007d508dfd8fac8bc8412b0c - 203de9efac14f3a3
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§ 14-318.2(a)

CLASS A1
MISDEMEANOR

Any parent of a child less than 16 years of age, or any other person providing care to or supervision of such child, who inflicts physical injury, or who allows physical injury to be inflicted, or who creates or allows to be created a substantial risk of physical injury, upon or to such child by other than accidental means is guilty of the Class A1 misdemeanor of child abuse.

§ 14-318.2(b)

CLASS A1
MISDEMEANOR

The Class A1 misdemeanor of child abuse is an offense additional to other civil and criminal provisions and is not intended to repeal or preclude any other sanctions or remedies.

§ 14-318.2(c)

A parent who abandons an infant less than 30 days of age pursuant to G.S. 14-322.3 shall not be prosecuted under this section for any acts or omissions related to the care of that infant.

§ 14-318.2(d)

Any parent of a child less than 18 years of age, or any other person providing care to or supervision of the child, is not guilty of a violation of this section for raising a child consistent with the child's biological sex, including referring to a child consistent with the child's biological sex, and making related mental health or medical decisions based on the child's biological sex. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize or allow any other acts or omissions that would constitute a violation under this section, including the infliction of serious physical injury or the creation of a substantial risk of physical injury.

APPARATUS I

10 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.



Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1965	c. 472, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1971	c. 710, s. 6	AMENDED
03	1993	c. 539, s. 223	AMENDED
04	1994	Ex. Sess., c. 14, s. 13	AMENDED
05	1994	c. 24, s. 14(c)	AMENDED
06	2001	S.L. 2001-291, s. 4	AMENDED
07	2008	S.L. 2008-191, s. 1	AMENDED
08	2009	S.L. 2009-570, s. 6	AMENDED
09	2025	S.L. 2025-4, s. 5.4(a)	AMENDED
10	2025	S.L. 2025-59, s. 2(a)	AMENDED

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. 14-322.3	(c)	"30 days of age pursuant to"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-318.2 (2025).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-318.2(a) (2025).

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

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1965, c. 472, s. 1; 1971, c. 710, s. 6; 1993, c. 539, s. 223; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 14, s. 13; c. 24, s. 14(c); 2001-291, s. 4; 2008-191, s. 1; 2009-570, s. 6; 2025-4, s. 5.4(a); 2025-59, s. 2(a).)

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