



CHAPTER 14
ARTICLE 39 - PROTECTION OF MINORS

N.C.G.S. § 14-318.7.

Exposing a child to a controlled substance.

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, 04:18 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 9fbe73056fb936af22d8dfd6 - aca139937316e11e5e7d5bae - 9aa7b79d79f80bc1
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- § 14-318.7(a)

Definitions. - The following definitions apply in this section:

 - (1) Child. - Any person who is less than 16 years of age.
 - (2) Controlled substance. - A controlled substance, controlled substance analogue, drug, marijuana, narcotic drug, opiate, opioid, opium poppy, poppy straw, or targeted controlled substance, all as defined in G.S. 90-87.
 - (3) Ingest. - Any means used to take into the body, to eat or drink, or otherwise consume or absorb into the body in any way.
- § 14-318.7(b)

CLASS H FELONY

A person who knowingly, intentionally, or with reckless disregard for human life causes or permits a child to be exposed to a controlled substance is guilty of a Class H felony.
- § 14-318.7(c)

CLASS E FELONY

A person who knowingly, intentionally, or with reckless disregard for human life causes or permits a child to be exposed to a controlled substance and, as a result, the child ingests the controlled substance is guilty of a Class E felony.
- § 14-318.7(d)

CLASS D FELONY

A person who knowingly, intentionally, or with reckless disregard for human life causes or permits a child to be exposed to a controlled substance and, as a result, the child ingests the controlled substance, resulting in serious physical injury as defined in G.S. 14-318.4, is guilty of a Class D felony.
- § 14-318.7(e)

CLASS C FELONY

A person who knowingly, intentionally, or with reckless disregard for human life causes or permits a child to be exposed to a controlled substance and, as a result, the

child ingests the controlled substance, resulting in serious bodily injury as defined in G.S. 14-318.4, is guilty of a Class C felony.

§ 14-318.7(f)
CLASS B1 FELONY

A person who knowingly, intentionally, or with reckless disregard for human life causes or permits a child to be exposed to a controlled substance and, as a result, the child ingests the controlled substance, and the ingestion is the proximate cause of death, is guilty of a Class B1 felony.

§ 14-318.7(g)

The punishments set forth in subsections (b) through (f) of this section apply unless the conduct is covered under some other provision of law providing greater punishment.

§ 14-318.7(h)

This section does not apply to a person that intentionally gives a child a controlled substance that has been prescribed for the child by a licensed medical professional when given to the child in the prescribed amount and manner. (2025-70, s. 1(a).)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS II
2 AUTHORITIES

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. 90-87	(a)(2)	"controlled substance, all as defined in"
G.S. 14-318.4	(d)	"serious physical injury as defined in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-318.7 (2026).

PINPOINT
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-318.7(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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