

Female Genital Mutilation; HB 2217

HB 2217 creates the crime of female genital mutilation, a severity level 3, person felony, defined as:

- Knowingly circumcising, excising, or infibulating the whole or any part of the labia majora, labia minora, or clitoris of a female under 18 years of age;
- Removing a female under 18 years of age from this state for the purpose of circumcising, excising, or infibulating the whole or any part of the labia majora, labia minora, or clitoris of such female; or
- Causing or permitting another to perform such conduct when the person causing or permitting such conduct is the parent, legal guardian, or caretaker of the victim.

An exception exists if the procedure is medically necessary pursuant to the order of a physician when the procedure is performed by a physician. It is not a defense, however, that the conduct is required as a matter of custom, ritual, or religious practice or that the victim or the victim's parent, legal guardian, or caretaker consented to the procedure.

The bill defines "caretaker" and "physician."