

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1364**

Introduced by

Representatives Wald, Boucher, Haas

Senators Lyson, Robinson, Wardner

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 19-03.1-23 and 19-03.1-23.2 of the North  
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to mandatory terms of imprisonment.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 19-03.1-23 of the 1999 Supplement to the North  
5 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **19-03.1-23. Prohibited acts A - Mandatory terms of imprisonment and fines -**  
7 **Unclassified offenses - Penalties.**

8 1. Except as authorized by this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to willfully, as  
9 defined in section 12.1-02-02, manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to  
10 manufacture or deliver, a controlled substance, but any person who violates  
11 section 12-46-24 or 12-47-21 may not be prosecuted under this subsection. Any  
12 person who violates this subsection with respect to:

13 a. A controlled substance classified in schedule I or II which is a narcotic drug, or  
14 methamphetamine, is guilty of a class A felony and must be sentenced:

15 (1) ~~For a first offense, to imprisonment for at least a year and a day.~~

16 ~~(2)~~ For a second offense, to imprisonment for at least five years.

17 ~~(3)~~ (2) For a third or subsequent offense, to imprisonment for twenty years.

18 b. Any other controlled substance classified in schedule I, II, or III, is guilty of a  
19 class B felony, except that any person who delivers one hundred pounds  
20 [45.36 kilograms] or more of marijuana is guilty of a class A felony. Except for  
21 a person who manufactures, delivers, or possesses with the intent to  
22 manufacture or deliver marijuana, any person found guilty under this  
23 subdivision must be sentenced:

24 (1) ~~For a first offense, to imprisonment for at least eight months.~~

- 1                   ~~(2)~~ For a second offense, to imprisonment for at least three years.
- 2                   ~~(3)~~ (2) For a third or subsequent offense, to imprisonment for ten years.
- 3                   c. A substance classified in schedule IV, is guilty of a class C felony and must be
- 4                   sentenced:
- 5                   (1) For a second offense, to imprisonment for at least six months.
- 6                   (2) For a third offense, to imprisonment for at least one year.
- 7                   (3) For a fourth or subsequent offense, to imprisonment for five years.
- 8                   d. A substance classified in schedule V, is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
- 9                   2. Except as authorized by this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to willfully, as
- 10                   defined in section 12.1-02-02, create, deliver, or possess with intent to deliver, a
- 11                   counterfeit substance, but any person who violates section 12-46-24 or 12-47-21
- 12                   may not be prosecuted under this subsection. Any person who violates this
- 13                   subsection with respect to:
- 14                   a. A counterfeit substance classified in schedule I or II which is a narcotic drug,
- 15                   is guilty of a class A felony.
- 16                   b. Any other counterfeit substance classified in schedule I, II, or III, is guilty of a
- 17                   class B felony.
- 18                   c. A counterfeit substance classified in schedule IV, is guilty of a class C felony.
- 19                   d. A counterfeit substance classified in schedule V, is guilty of a class A
- 20                   misdemeanor.
- 21                   3. ~~In~~ For second or subsequent offenders, in addition to any other penalty imposed
- 22                   under this section, a person who violates this chapter, except a person who
- 23                   manufactures, delivers, or possesses with the intent to manufacture or deliver
- 24                   marijuana, is subject to, and the court shall impose, the following penalties to run
- 25                   consecutively to any other sentence imposed:
- 26                   a. Any person, eighteen years of age or older, who violates this section by
- 27                   willfully manufacturing, delivering, or possessing with intent to manufacture or
- 28                   deliver a controlled substance in or on, or within one thousand feet [300.48
- 29                   meters] of the real property comprising a public or private elementary or
- 30                   secondary school or a public vocational school is subject to ~~a four-year~~ an

eight-year term of imprisonment. ~~For a second or subsequent offense, the sentencing term required to be imposed must be eight years.~~

b. If the defendant was at least twenty-one years of age at the time of the offense, and delivered a controlled substance to a person under the age of eighteen, the defendant must be sentenced to imprisonment for at least ~~four~~ eight years. ~~For a second or subsequent offense, the defendant must be sentenced to imprisonment for at least eight years.~~ It is not a defense that the defendant did not know the age of a person protected under this subdivision.

4. A person at least eighteen years of age who solicits, induces, intimidates, employs, hires, or uses a person under eighteen years of age to aid or assist in the manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver a controlled substance for the purpose of receiving consideration or payment for the manufacture or delivery of any controlled substance is guilty of a class B felony and must be sentenced:

a. ~~For the first offense, to imprisonment for at least four years.~~

~~b.~~ For a second or subsequent offense, to imprisonment for at least five years.

~~e.~~ b. It is not a defense to a violation of this subsection that the defendant did not know the age of a person protected under this subsection.

5. A violation of this chapter or a law of another state or the federal government which is equivalent to an offense under this chapter committed while the offender was an adult and which resulted in a plea or finding of guilt must be considered a prior offense under subsections 1, 3, and 4. The prior offense must be alleged in the complaint, information, or indictment. The plea or finding of guilt for the prior offense must have occurred before the date of the commission of the offense or offenses charged in the complaint, information, or indictment.

6. It is unlawful for any person to willfully, as defined in section 12.1-02-02, possess a controlled substance unless the substance was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a valid prescription or order of a practitioner while acting in the course of the practitioner's professional practice, or except as otherwise authorized by this chapter, but any person who violates section 12-46-24 or 12-47-21 may not be prosecuted under this subsection. Except as provided in this subsection, any

person who violates this subsection is guilty of a class C felony. If the person is in or on, or within one thousand feet [300.48 meters] of the real property comprising a public or private elementary or secondary school or a public vocational school, the person is guilty of a class B felony. Any person who violates this subsection regarding possession of one-half ounce [14.175 grams] to one ounce [28.35 grams] of marijuana, is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. Any person, except a person operating a motor vehicle, who violates this subsection regarding possession of less than one-half ounce [14.175 grams] of marijuana is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. Any person who violates this subsection regarding possession of less than one-half ounce [14.175 grams] of marijuana while operating a motor vehicle is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

7. A person who violates this chapter must undergo a drug addiction evaluation by an appropriate licensed addiction treatment program. The evaluation must indicate the prospects for rehabilitation and whether addiction treatment is required. The evaluation must be submitted to the court for consideration when imposing punishment for a violation of this chapter.
8. Notwithstanding section 19-03.1-30, whenever a person pleads guilty or is found guilty of a first offense regarding possession of one ounce [28.35 grams] or less of marijuana and a judgment of guilt is entered, a court, upon motion, shall expunge that conviction from the record if the person is not subsequently convicted within two years of a further violation of this chapter and has not been convicted of any other criminal offense.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 19-03.1-23.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**19-03.1-23.2. Mandatory terms of imprisonment - Deferred or suspended sentence limited.** Whenever a mandatory term of imprisonment is prescribed as a penalty for violation of this chapter, the court may not defer imposition of sentence, nor may the court suspend any part of a specified mandatory term, either at the time of or after the imposition of the sentence, ~~unless the court first finds that the offense was the defendant's first violation of this chapter and that extenuating or mitigating circumstances exist which justify a suspension.~~ The court shall announce the circumstances that justify a suspension in open court when

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- 1 ~~sentence is imposed and recite these circumstances in the sentence or order suspending part~~
- 2 ~~of the sentence.~~