**South Carolina General Assembly**

125th Session, 2023-2024

**S. 1**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators Alexander, Turner, Senn, Young, Gustafson, Peeler, Setzler, Rankin, Adams, Bennett, Climer, Campsen and Kimbrell

Companion/Similar bill(s): 238, 586, 3476

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Introduced in the Senate on January 10, 2023

Introduced in the House on February 28, 2023

Last Amended on February 22, 2023

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Drug-Induced Homicide

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

11/30/2022 Senate Prefiled

11/30/2022 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/10/2023 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 16](h:\sj\20230110.docx))

1/10/2023 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 16](h:\sj\20230110.docx))

1/12/2023 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Hutto (ch), Matthews,
Rice, Senn, Adams

2/1/2023 Senate Committee report: Favorable **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 8](h:\sj\20230201.docx))

2/2/2023 Scrivener's error corrected

2/7/2023 Senate Amended ([Senate Journal‑page 10](h:\sj\20230207.docx))

2/22/2023 Senate Amended ([Senate Journal‑page 24](h:\sj\20230222.docx))

2/22/2023 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 24](h:\sj\20230222.docx))

2/22/2023 Senate Roll call Ayes-43 Nays-0 ([Senate Journal‑page 24](h:\sj\20230222.docx))

2/23/2023 Senate Read third time and sent to House ([Senate Journal‑page 6](h:\sj\20230223.docx))

2/28/2023 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 9](h:\hj\20230228.docx))

2/28/2023 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 9](h:\hj\20230228.docx))

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/01/2022](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/1_20221201.docx)

[02/01/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/1_20230201.docx)

[02/02/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/1_20230202.docx)

[02/07/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/1_20230207.docx)

[02/07/2023-A](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/1_20230207a.docx)

[02/22/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/1_20230222.docx)

Indicates Matter Stricken

Indicates New Matter

Amended

February 22, 2023

S. 1

Introduced by Senators Alexander, Turner, Senn, Young, Gustafson, Peeler, Setzler, Rankin, Adams, Bennett, Climer, Campsen and Kimbrell

S. Printed 02/22/23--S.

Read the first time January 10, 2023

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A bill

to amend the South Carolina Code of Laws by adding Section 16-3-80 so as to CREATE THE OFFENSE OF DRUG-INDUCED HOMICIDE, TO PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR A VIOLATION, AND TO PROHIBIT AN AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE; by amending Section 16-1-10, relating to A LIST OF EXCEPTIONS FOR FELONIES AND MISDEMEANORS, so as to ADD DRUG-INDUCED HOMICIDE; and by amending Section 44-53-190, relating to Schedule I drugs, so as to add Fentanyl-related substances.

Amend Title To Conform

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 3, Title 16 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

Section 16-3-80. (A) A person who knowingly and unlawfully delivers, dispenses, or otherwise provides fentanyl or a fentanyl-related substance as defined in Section 44-53-190(B) and Section 44-53-210(c)(6) to another person, in violation of the provisions of Section 44-53-370, commits the felony offense of fentanyl-induced homicide if the proximate cause of the death of any other person is the injection, inhalation, absorption, or ingestion of any amount of the fentanyl or fentanyl-related substance that was unlawfully delivered, dispensed, or otherwise provided.

(B) A person convicted of a fentanyl-induced homicide pursuant to the provisions of this section must be imprisoned not more than thirty years.

(C) It is not a defense pursuant to this section that a decedent contributed to his own death by his purposeful, knowing, reckless, or negligent injection, inhalation, absorption, or ingestion of the controlled substance or by his consenting to the administration of the controlled substance by another person, unless there exists clear and convincing evidence that the decedent intended to commit suicide. A person charged with a violation of this section may also be charged for any other applicable drug-related offense to include an assisted suicide pursuant to the provisions of Section 16-3-1090.

SECTION 2. Section 16-1-10(D) of the S.C. Code is amended by adding a new offense to read:

Section 16-3-80. Fentanyl-induced homicide

SECTION 3. Section 44‑53‑190(B) of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

48. Fentanyl‑related substances. Unless specifically excepted, listed in another schedule, or contained within a pharmaceutical product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation, including its salts, isomers, esters, or ethers, and salts of isomers, esters, or ethers, that is structurally related to fentanyl by one or more of the following modifications:

(a) replacement of the phenyl portion of the phenethyl group by any monocycle, whether or not further substituted in or on the monocycle;

(b) substitution in or on the phenethyl group with alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyl, hydroxyl, halo, haloalkyl, amino or nitro groups;

(c) substitution in or on the piperidine ring with alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxyl, ester, ether, hydroxyl, halo, haloalkyl, amino or nitro groups;

(d) replacement of the aniline ring with any aromatic monocycle whether or not further substituted in or on the aromatic monocycle; and/or

(e) replacement of the N‑propionyl group by another acyl group or hydrogen.

This definition includes, but is not limited to, the following substances: Methylacetyl fentanyl, Alpha‑methylfentanyl, Methylthiofentanyl, Benzylfentanyl, Beta‑hydroxyfentanyl, Beta‑hydroxy‑3‑methylfentanyl, 3‑Methylfentanyl, Methylthiofentanyl, Fluorofentanyl, Thenylfentanyl or Thienyl fentanyl, Thiofentanyl, Acetylfentanyl, Butyrylfentanyl, Beta‑Hydroxythiofentanyl, Lofentanil, Ocfentanil, Ohmfentanyl, Benzodioxolefentanyl, Furanyl fentanyl, Pentanoyl fentanyl, Cyclopentyl fentanyl, Isobutyryl fentanyl, Remifentanil, Crotonyl fentanyl, Cyclopropyl fentanyl, Valeryl fentanyl, Fluorobutyryl fentanyl, Fluoroisobutyryl fentanyl, Methoxybutyryl Fentanyl, Isobutyryl fentanyl, Chloroisobutyryl fentanyl, Acryl fentanyl, Tetrahydrofuran fentanyl, Methoxyacetyl fentanyl, Fluorocrotonyl fentanyl, Cyclopentenyl fentanyl, Phenyl fentanyl, Cyclobutyl fentanyl, Methylcyclopropyl fenantyl.

SECTION 4. The repeal or amendment by this act of any law, whether temporary or permanent, or civil or criminal, does not affect pending actions, rights, duties, or liabilities founded thereon, or alter, discharge, release, or extinguish any penalty, forfeiture, or liability incurred under the repealed or amended law, unless the repealed or amended provision shall so expressly provide. After the effective date of this act, all laws repealed or amended by this act must be taken and treated as remaining in full force and effect for the purpose of sustaining any pending or vested right, civil action, special proceeding, criminal prosecution, or appeal existing as of the effective date of this act, and for the enforcement of rights, duties, penalties, forfeitures, and liabilities as they stood under the repealed or amended laws.

SECTION 5. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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