**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**S. 183**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators Adams, Fernandez, Alexander, Garrett, Leber, Kimbrell, Matthews and Walker

Companion/Similar bill(s): 3591

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Introduced in the Senate on January 14, 2025

Last Amended on February 25, 2025

Currently residing in the Senate

Summary: Drug Induced Homicide

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/14/2025 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 111](h:\sj\20250114.docx))

1/14/2025 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 111](h:\sj\20250114.docx))

2/19/2025 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 13](h:\sj\20250219.docx))

2/25/2025 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 23](h:\sj\20250225.docx))

2/25/2025 Senate Amended ([Senate Journal‑page 23](h:\sj\20250225.docx))

2/25/2025 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 23](h:\sj\20250225.docx))

2/25/2025 Senate Roll call Ayes-43 Nays-0 ([Senate Journal‑page 23](h:\sj\20250225.docx))

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[01/14/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/183_20250114.docx)

[02/19/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/183_20250219.docx)

[02/25/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/183_20250225.docx)

[03/05/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/183_20250305.docx)

Indicates Matter Stricken

Indicates New Matter

Committee Amendment Adopted and Amended

February 25, 2025

S. 183

Introduced by Senators Adams, Fernandez, Alexander, Garrett, Leber, Kimbrell, Matthews and Walker

S. Printed 2/25/25--S. [SEC 3/5/2025 11:02 AM]

Read the first time January 14, 2025

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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 AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY; AND TO AMEND SECTION 16‑1‑10, RELATING TO THE EXEMPTION FROM THE CATEGORIZATION OF FELONIES AND MISDEMEANORS, SO AS TO INCLUDE DRUG‑INDUCED HOMICIDE.

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 a controlled substance to another person in violation of the provisions of Section 44‑53‑370 or 44‑53‑375 commits the felony offense of drug‑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 controlled substance.

(B) A person convicted of drug‑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. This section does not prohibit a person from being arrested, charged, or prosecuted for any other applicable offense, whether or not the offense arises from the same circumstances as provided in this section.

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. Drug‑induced homicide.

SECTION 3. 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 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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