



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2007 Wisconsin Act 127
[2007 Senate Bill 260]

Strangulation and Suffocation

Wisconsin Act 127 provides that whoever intentionally impedes the normal breathing or circulation of blood by applying pressure on the throat or neck or by blocking the nose or mouth of another person is guilty of a Class H felony. The maximum penalty for this crime is a fine of \$10,000, a term of confinement of three years, and a term of extended supervision of three years. Further, the person will be guilty of a Class G felony if the defendant has a previous conviction for strangulation and suffocation or a previous conviction for the commission of a violent crime. The maximum penalty for a Class G felony is a \$25,000 fine, a term of confinement of five years, and a term of extended supervision of five years. Finally, the Act amends the definition of the term “substantial bodily harm” to include a petechia. A petechia is a small spot on a body surface caused by a minute hemorrhage.

Effective Date: The Act takes effect on April 4, 2008.

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RS:ksm

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature’s Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.