Wisconsin Legislative Council AMENDMENT MEMO



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2025 Assembly Bill 201

Assembly Amendment 1

2025 ASSEMBLY BILL 201

2025 Assembly Bill 201 creates a new crime of sexual extortion. Very generally, that crime prohibits a person from doing any of the following:

- Threatening to injure the property or reputation of another person with the intent to coerce that person to engage in sexual conduct or produce an intimate representation of that person.
- Threatens to commit violence against another person with the intent to coerce that person to engage in sexual conduct or to produce an intimate representation of that person.
- Threatens to distribute an intimate representation of another person with the intent to coerce that person to do any of the following: (1) engage in sexual conduct; (2) produce another intimate representation of that person; (3) provide the payment of money property, services, or any other thing of value to the actor; or (4) do or refrain from doing any act against that person's will.

Violations are generally punishable as a Class I felony, but may be punishable as a Class G or Class H felony under certain circumstances.

As relevant to Assembly Amendment 1, the bill also modifies the crime of felony murder. Under current law, a person who causes the death of another person while committing or attempting to commit certain enumerated crimes is guilty of felony murder. The bill adds three crimes to that list: the new crime of sexual extortion and two existing crimes, threats to injure or accuse of crime, and threats to communicate derogatory information.¹

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 removes the felony murder provision and instead provides that a person who commits a violation of the crime of sexual extortion is guilty of a Class B felony if the victim, as a direct result of the violation, dies.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Snyder offered Assembly Amendment 1 on May 19, 2025. On May 21, 2025, the Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety voted to recommend adoption of the amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's <u>bill history page</u>.

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¹ See ss. <u>943.30</u> and <u>943.31</u>, Stats.

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