
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 217 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY KAUFFMAN, BAKER, STEPHENS, DRISCOLL, WATSON,
D. COSTA, READSHAW, MOUL, McNEILL, MILLARD, WARD, BIZZARRO
AND GILLEN, JANUARY 25, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JANUARY 25, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in offenses against the family,
3 further providing for the offense of endangering welfare of
4 children.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 4304(b) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 4304. Endangering welfare of children.

10 * * *

11 (b) Grading.--[An offense under this section constitutes a
12 misdemeanor of the first degree. However, where there is a
13 course of conduct of endangering the welfare of a child, the
14 offense constitutes a felony of the third degree.]

15 (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), the
16 following apply:

17 (i) An offense under this section constitutes a
18 misdemeanor of the first degree.

1 (ii) If the actor engaged in a course of conduct of
2 endangering the welfare of a child, the offense
3 constitutes a felony of the third degree.

4 (iii) If, in the commission of the offense under
5 subsection (a)(1), the actor created a substantial risk
6 of death or serious bodily injury, the offense
7 constitutes a felony of the third degree.

8 (iv) If the actor's conduct under subsection (a)(1)
9 created a substantial risk of death or serious bodily
10 injury and was part of a course of conduct, the offense
11 constitutes a felony of the second degree.

12 (2) The grading of an offense under this section shall
13 be increased one grade if, at the time of the commission of
14 the offense, the child was under six years of age.

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.