

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1641

Introduced by Assembly Member Hall

January 11, 2010

An act to amend Section 152.3 of the Penal Code, relating to rape.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1641, as introduced, Hall. Rape: duty to report.

Existing law requires, with specified exceptions, any person who reasonably believes that he or she has observed the commission of a rape where the victim is a child under 14 years of age to notify a peace officer by telephone or any other means. The failure to notify as required is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$1,500, or by imprisonment in a county jail for up to 6 months, or both.

This bill would delete the age of the victim from the elements of the crime.

By expanding the scope of an existing crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 152.3 of the Penal Code is amended to
2 read:

3 152.3. (a) Any person who reasonably believes that he or she
4 has observed the commission of any of the following offenses
5 ~~where the victim is a child under the age of 14 years~~ shall notify
6 a peace officer, as defined in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with
7 Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2:

- 8 (1) Murder, *where the victim is a child under 14 years of age.*
- 9 (2) Rape.
- 10 (3) A violation of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section
11 288 of the Penal Code.

12 (b) This section shall not be construed to affect privileged
13 relationships as provided by law.

14 (c) The duty to notify a peace officer imposed pursuant to
15 subdivision (a) is satisfied if the notification or an attempt to
16 provide notice is made by telephone or any other means.

17 (d) Failure to notify as required pursuant to subdivision (a) is a
18 misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not more than one
19 thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500), by imprisonment in a
20 county jail for not more than six months, or by both that fine and
21 imprisonment.

22 (e) The requirements of this section shall not apply to the
23 following:

- 24 (1) A person who is related to either the victim or the offender,
25 including a husband, wife, parent, child, brother, sister,
26 grandparent, grandchild, or other person related by consanguinity
27 or affinity.
- 28 (2) A person who fails to report based on a reasonable mistake
29 of fact.
- 30 (3) A person who fails to report based on a reasonable fear for
31 his or her own safety or for the safety of his or her family.