

2026 -- S 2597

=====
LC003339
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

—————
A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- SEXUAL ASSAULT

Introduced By: Senators de la Cruz, and Rogers

Date Introduced: February 13, 2026

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 11-37-3 and 11-37-8.2 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-37 entitled
2 "Sexual Assault" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-37-3. Penalty for first degree sexual assault.**

4 Every person who shall commit sexual assault in the first degree shall be imprisoned for a
5 period not less than ~~ten (10)~~ fifteen (15) years; provided that, the first ten (10) years shall be served
6 and the person shall not be afforded the benefits of determent or suspension of sentence and may
7 be imprisoned for life.

8 **11-37-8.2. Penalty for first degree child molestation sexual assault.**

9 Every person who shall commit first degree child molestation sexual assault shall be
10 imprisoned for a period of not less than twenty- five (25) years; provided that, the first ten (10)
11 years shall be served and the person shall not be afforded the benefits of determent or suspension
12 of sentence and may be imprisoned for life.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and shall be applicable to all those
14 offenses committed after the effective date of this section.

=====
LC003339
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- SEXUAL ASSAULT

1 This act would increase the minimum sentence for first degree sexual assault and provide
2 that the first ten (10) years of a sentence for first degree sexual assault not be subject to a suspension
3 or deferment of sentence. This act would provide that the first ten (10) years of a sentence for first
4 degree child molestation sexual assault not be subject to a suspension or deferment of sentence.

5 This act would take effect upon passage and would be applicable to all those offenses
6 committed after the effective date of this section.

=====
LC003339
=====