Overview

This bill expands the crime of solicitation to engage in sexual conduct to include solicitation of a fifteen-year-old child and a person the individual committing the crime reasonably believes is a child. The bill also provides that the solicitation may take place in any manner, including in person, by telephone, by letter, or by computerized or other electronic means. Finally, the bill provides that jurisdiction exists for a first through fifth degree criminal sexual conduct offense or solicitation offense in either the jurisdiction where the offense originated or terminated.

1 Definitions. Amends the definition of "child" in the solicitation of children to engage in sexual conduct law to include children under the age of 16. Amends the definition of "solicit" to provide that the conduct (commanding, entreating, or attempting to persuade a specific person) may take place in any manner, including in person, by telephone, by letter, or by computerized or other electronic means.

2 Prohibited act. Current law provides that a person who is 18 years of age or older who solicits a child to engage in sexual conduct with intent to engage in sexual conduct is guilty of a three-year felony. This bill includes within the scope of this crime the solicitation of someone the person reasonably believes is a child.

3 Jurisdiction. Provides that a violation or attempted violation of first through fifth degree criminal sexual conduct or soliciting a child to engage in sexual conduct may be prosecuted in any jurisdiction in which the violation originates or terminates.

4 Effective date. August 1, 2000, for crimes committed on or after that date.