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H.B. 654
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Deeter and Manning

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SUMMARY

- Names the act Amanda Dean's Law.
- Increases the penalties for abuse of a corpse and gross abuse of a corpse.
- Expands the offense of gross abuse of a corpse to include dismembering, mutilating, or intentionally disfiguring a human corpse and doing so for the purpose of concealing a crime, obstructing justice, or impairing the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Amanda Dean's Law

The bill names the act Amanda Dean's law.¹

Abuse and gross abuse of a corpse

Under continuing law, a person, except as authorized by law, from treating a human corpse in a way that the person (1) knows would outrage reasonable family sensibilities or (2) in a way that would outrage reasonable community sensibilities. A violation of (1) is abuse of a corpse and a violation of (2) is gross abuse of a corpse.² The bill increases the penalty for abuse of a corpse from a second degree misdemeanor to a fifth degree felony and the penalty for gross abuse of a corpse generally from a fifth degree felony to a fourth degree felony.³

¹ Section 3.

² R.C. 2927.01(A) and (B).

³ R.C. 2927.01(C)(1).

Under the bill, if in committing gross abuse of a corpse the offender dismembers, mutilates, or intentionally disfigures a human corpse, gross abuse of a corpse is a third degree felony.⁴ If the offender dismembers, mutilates, or intentionally disfigures a human corpse for the purpose of concealing a crime, obstructing justice, or impairing the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense, gross abuse of a corpse is a second degree felony.⁵

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	01-27-26

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⁴ R.C. 2927.01(C)(2).

⁵ R.C. 2927.01(C)(3).