

or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for any term of years or for life.

(Added Pub. L. 99-646, §87(b), Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3621, and Pub. L. 99-654, §2, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3661; amended Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330021(1), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2150; Pub. L. 109-162, title XI, §1177(a)(3), Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3125; Pub. L. 109-248, title II, §§205, 207(2), July 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 613, 615; Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, §554, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2082.)

#### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 99-646 and Pub. L. 99-654 added identical sections 2242.

#### AMENDMENTS

2007—Pub. L. 110-161 substituted “the head of any Federal department or agency” for “the Attorney General” in introductory provisions.

2006—Pub. L. 109-248 inserted comma after “Attorney General” in introductory provisions and substituted “and imprisoned for any term of years or for life” for “, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both” in concluding provisions.

Pub. L. 109-162 inserted “or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the Attorney General” after “in a Federal prison,” in introductory provisions.

1994—Par. (1). Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “kidnaping” for “kidnaping”.

### § 2243. Sexual abuse of a minor or ward

(a) OF A MINOR.—Whoever, in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison, or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the head of any Federal department or agency, knowingly engages in a sexual act with another person who—

- (1) has attained the age of 12 years but has not attained the age of 16 years; and
- (2) is at least four years younger than the person so engaging;

or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 15 years, or both.

(b) OF A WARD.—Whoever, in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison, or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the head of any Federal department or agency, knowingly engages in a sexual act with another person who is—

- (1) in official detention; and
- (2) under the custodial, supervisory, or disciplinary authority of the person so engaging;

or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 15 years, or both.

(c) DEFENSES.—(1) In a prosecution under subsection (a) of this section, it is a defense, which the defendant must establish by a preponderance of the evidence, that the defendant reasonably believed that the other person had attained the age of 16 years.

(2) In a prosecution under this section, it is a defense, which the defendant must establish by

a preponderance of the evidence, that the persons engaging in the sexual act were at that time married to each other.

(d) STATE OF MIND PROOF REQUIREMENT.—In a prosecution under subsection (a) of this section, the Government need not prove that the defendant knew—

- (1) the age of the other person engaging in the sexual act; or
- (2) that the requisite age difference existed between the persons so engaging.

(Added Pub. L. 99-646, §87(b), Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3621, and Pub. L. 99-654, §2, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3661; amended Pub. L. 101-647, title III, §322, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4818; Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, §101(a) [title I, §121[7(c)]], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009, 3009-26, 3009-31; Pub. L. 105-314, title III, §301(b), Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 2979; Pub. L. 109-162, title XI, §1177(a)(4), (b)(1), Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3125; Pub. L. 109-248, title II, §207, July 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 615; Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, §554, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2082.)

#### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 99-646 and Pub. L. 99-654 added identical sections 2243.

#### AMENDMENTS

2007—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 110-161 substituted “the head of any Federal department or agency” for “the Attorney General” in introductory provisions.

2006—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109-248, §207(2), inserted comma after “Attorney General” in introductory provisions.

Pub. L. 109-162, §1177(a)(4), inserted “or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the Attorney General” after “in a Federal prison,” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 109-248 inserted comma after “Attorney General” in introductory provisions and substituted “15 years” for “five years” in concluding provisions.

Pub. L. 109-162, §1177(a)(4), (b)(1), inserted “or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the Attorney General” after “in a Federal prison,” in introductory provisions and substituted “five years” for “one year” in concluding provisions.

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-314 struck out “crosses a State line with intent to engage in a sexual act with a person who has not attained the age of 12 years, or” after “Whoever” in introductory provisions.

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-208 inserted “crosses a State line with intent to engage in a sexual act with a person who has not attained the age of 12 years, or” after “Whoever” in introductory provisions.

1990—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-647 substituted “15 years” for “five years” in concluding provisions.

### § 2244. Abusive sexual contact

(a) SEXUAL CONDUCT IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE SEXUAL ACTS ARE PUNISHED BY THIS CHAPTER.—Whoever, in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison, or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the head of any Federal department or agency, knowingly engages in or causes sexual contact with or by another person, if so to do would violate—

- (1) subsection (a) or (b) of section 2241 of this title had the sexual contact been a sexual act,