

1 AN ACT in relation to criminal law.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Criminal Code of 1961 is amended by  
5 changing Section 12-10.1 and adding Section 12-10.2 as  
6 follows:

7 (720 ILCS 5/12-10.1)

8 Sec. 12-10.1. Piercing the body of a minor.

9 (a)(1) Any person who pierces the body or oral cavity of  
10 a person under 18 years of age without written consent of  
11 a parent or legal guardian of that person commits the  
12 offense of piercing the body of a minor. Before the oral  
13 cavity of a person under 18 years of age may be pierced,  
14 the written consent form signed by the parent or legal  
15 guardian must contain a provision in substantially the  
16 following form:

17 "I understand that the oral piercing of the tongue,  
18 lips, cheeks, or any other area of the oral cavity  
19 carries serious risk of infection or damage to the mouth  
20 and teeth, or both infection and damage to those areas,  
21 that could result but is not limited to nerve damage,  
22 numbness, and life threatening blood clots."

23 A person who pierces the oral cavity of a person  
24 under 18 years of age without obtaining a signed written  
25 consent form from a parent or legal guardian of the  
26 person that includes the provision describing the health  
27 risks of body piercing, violates this Section.

28 (2) Sentence. Piercing the body of a minor is a  
29 Class C misdemeanor.

30 (b) Definition. As used in this Section, to "pierce"  
31 means to make a hole in the body or oral cavity in order to

1 insert or allow the insertion of any ring, hoop, stud, or  
 2 other object for the purpose of ornamentation of the body.  
 3 "Piercing" does not include tongue splitting as defined in  
 4 Section 12-10.2.

5 (c) Exceptions. This Section may not be construed in  
 6 any way to prohibit any injection, incision, acupuncture, or  
 7 similar medical or dental procedure performed by a licensed  
 8 health care professional or other person authorized to  
 9 perform that procedure. This Section does not prohibit ear  
 10 piercing. This Section does not apply to a minor emancipated  
 11 under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 or the Emancipation of  
 12 Mature Minors Act or by marriage.

13 (Source: P.A. 91-412, eff. 9-5-99; 92-692, eff. 1-1-03.)

14 (720 ILCS 5/12-10.2 new)

15 Sec. 12-10.2. Tongue splitting.

16 (a) In this Section, "tongue splitting" means the  
 17 cutting of a human tongue into 2 or more parts.

18 (b) A person may not perform tongue splitting on another  
 19 person unless the person performing the tongue splitting is  
 20 licensed to practice medicine in all its branches under the  
 21 Medical Practice Act of 1987 or licensed under the Illinois  
 22 Dental Practice Act.

23 (c) A physician or dentist authorized under subsection  
 24 (b) to perform tongue splitting may perform tongue splitting  
 25 on an individual only if there is a therapeutic or clinical  
 26 basis for performing the procedure on that individual.

27 (d) Sentence. Tongue splitting performed in violation of  
 28 this Section is a Class A misdemeanor for a first offense and  
 29 a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense.