

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SENATE BILL 196

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

Craig W. Brandt

AN ACT

RELATING TO PRETRIAL RELEASE; ESTABLISHING WHEN A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION ARISES THAT A DEFENDANT IS LIKELY TO POSE A THREAT TO THE SAFETY OF OTHERS IF RELEASED PENDING TRIAL AND THAT NO RELEASE CONDITIONS WILL REASONABLY PROTECT THE SAFETY OF ANY OTHER PERSON OR THE COMMUNITY; CONFIRMING THE PROSECUTION'S BURDEN OF PROOF IN PRETRIAL DETENTION HEARINGS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 31, Article 3 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION AGAINST RELEASE.--

A. Subject to rebuttal by the defendant in a pretrial detention hearing requested by a prosecuting authority, it shall be presumed that the prosecution has proven

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant is likely
2 to pose a threat to the safety of others if released pending
3 trial and that no release conditions will reasonably protect
4 the safety of any other person or the community if there is
5 probable cause to believe:

6 (1) the defendant committed any of the
7 following felony offenses for which the defendant is charged:

8 (a) murder in the first degree, as
9 provided in Section 30-2-1 NMSA 1978;

10 (b) first or second degree felony human
11 trafficking of a child, as provided in Section 30-52-1 NMSA
12 1978;

13 (c) first degree felony abuse of a
14 child, as provided in Section 30-6-1 NMSA 1978;

15 (d) sexual exploitation of a child
16 constituting at least a second degree felony, as provided in
17 Section 30-6A-3 NMSA 1978;

18 (e) a serious violent felony offense, as
19 provided in Subparagraphs (a) through (n) of Paragraph (4) of
20 Subsection L of Section 33-2-34 NMSA 1978;

21 (f) a felony offense during which a
22 firearm was brandished pursuant to Section 31-18-16 NMSA 1978
23 or during which a firearm was discharged; or

24 (g) a felony offense during which great
25 bodily harm was inflicted, as provided in Section 30-1-12 NMSA

.229839.1GLG

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 1978, or that caused the death of a person; or

2 (2) the defendant committed a new felony
3 offense that prompted the detention hearing:

4 (a) while pending trial or sentencing
5 for an offense listed in Paragraph (1) of Subsection A of this
6 section;

7 (b) while on probation, parole or any
8 other post-conviction supervision for an offense listed in
9 Paragraph (1) of Subsection A of this section; or

10 (c) within five years of having been
11 convicted of an offense listed in Paragraph (1) of Subsection A
12 of this section.

13 B. If the court rules that the presumption in
14 Subsection A of this section applies to a defendant, the court
15 shall evaluate whether the prosecution has satisfied its burden
16 of proof pursuant to Article 2, Section 13 of the constitution
17 of New Mexico by considering any other available information
18 tending to indicate that the defendant is likely to pose a
19 threat to the safety of others if released pending trial and
20 that no release conditions will reasonably protect the safety
21 of any other person or the community.

22 C. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to shift
23 the prosecution's burden of proof to the defendant that the
24 defendant is likely to pose a threat to the safety of others if
25 released pending trial and that no release conditions will

.229839.1GLG

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 reasonably protect the safety of any other person or the
2 community. The burden of proof rests with the prosecuting
3 authority.

4 D. For the purposes of this section, "firearm"
5 means any weapon that will, is designed to or may readily be
6 converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive."

7 SECTION 2. APPLICABILITY.--The provisions of this act
8 apply to charges first filed against defendants on or after the
9 effective date of this act.

10 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
11 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.