

Public Safety Committee

HB 1383

**Brief Description:** Modifying the crime of patronizing a prostitute.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Pellicciotti, Kraft, Kilduff, Orwall, Dolan, Doglio, Ormsby, Ryu, Macri, Stanford, Appleton, Riccelli and Leavitt.

<p><b>Brief Summary of Bill</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raises the classification for any second or subsequent conviction for the crime of Patronizing a Prostitute from a misdemeanor to a gross misdemeanor.</li> </ul>
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**Hearing Date:** 2/4/19

**Staff:** Omeara Harrington (786-7136).

**Background:**

Classification of Crimes.

Crimes are classified as misdemeanors, gross misdemeanors, or felonies. The classification of a crime generally determines the maximum term of confinement and the maximum fine a court can impose for an offense. For each classification, the maximum terms of confinement and maximum fines are as follows:

Classification	Maximum Confinement	Maximum Fine
Misdemeanor	90 days	\$1,000
Gross Misdemeanor	364 days	\$5,000
Class C Felony	5 years	\$10,000
Class B Felony	10 years	\$20,000
Class A Felony	Life	\$50,000

*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

## Patronizing a Prostitute.

A person is guilty of the crime of Patronizing a Prostitute if he or she:

- pays a fee, pursuant to a prior understanding, as compensation for another person having engaged in sexual conduct with him or her;
- pays or agrees to pay a fee to another person with the understanding that the person will engage in sexual conduct with him or her in return; or
- solicits or requests another person to engage in sexual conduct with him or her in exchange for a fee.

Patronizing a Prostitute is a misdemeanor offense.

### **Summary of Bill:**

The classification of a second or subsequent conviction for the crime of Patronizing a Prostitute is elevated from a misdemeanor to a gross misdemeanor.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 30, 2019.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.