
SENATE BILL 5735

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Darneille, Nguyen, Hasegawa, and Wilson, C.

Read first time 01/30/19. Referred to Committee on Human Services,
Reentry & Rehabilitation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the appropriate age for juvenile court
2 adjudication; and amending RCW 9A.04.050.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9A.04.050 and 2011 c 336 s 347 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Children under the age of eight years are incapable of committing
7 crime. Children of eight and under (~~twelve~~) fifteen years of age
8 are presumed to be incapable of committing crime, but this
9 presumption may be removed by proof that they have sufficient
10 capacity to understand the act or neglect, and to know that it was
11 wrong. Whenever in legal proceedings it becomes necessary to
12 determine the age of a child, he or she may be produced for
13 inspection, to enable the court or jury to determine the age thereby;
14 and the court may also direct his or her examination by one or more
15 physicians, whose opinion shall be competent evidence upon the
16 question of his or her age.

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