

TITLE 18 - CRIMES AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

PART I - CRIMES

CHAPTER 110 - SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND OTHER ABUSE OF CHILDREN

§ 2252B. Misleading domain names on the Internet

- (a) Whoever knowingly uses a misleading domain name on the Internet with the intent to deceive a person into viewing material constituting obscenity shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both.
- (b) Whoever knowingly uses a misleading domain name on the Internet with the intent to deceive a minor into viewing material that is harmful to minors on the Internet shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.
- (c) For the purposes of this section, a domain name that includes a word or words to indicate the sexual content of the site, such as “sex” or “porn”, is not misleading.
- (d) For the purposes of this section, the term “material that is harmful to minors” means any communication, consisting of nudity, sex, or excretion, that, taken as a whole and with reference to its context—
 - (1) predominantly appeals to a prurient interest of minors;
 - (2) is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community as a whole with respect to what is suitable material for minors; and
 - (3) lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors.
- (e) For the purposes of subsection (d), the term “sex” means acts of masturbation, sexual intercourse, or physical¹ contact with a person’s genitals, or the condition of human male or female genitals when in a state of sexual stimulation or arousal.

Footnotes

¹ So in original. Probably should be “physical”.

(Added Pub. L. 108–21, title V, § 521(a), Apr. 30, 2003, 117 Stat. 686; amended Pub. L. 109–248, title II, § 206(b)(4), July 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 614.)

Amendments

2006—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 109–248 substituted “10 years” for “4 years”.