

Bill No. CS for SB 198

Amendment No.

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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11	Senator Klein moved the following amendment:		
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13	Senate Amendment (with title amendment)		
14	Delete everything after the enacting clause		
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16	and insert:		
17	Section 1. Section 918.16, Florida Statutes, is		
18	amended to read:		
19	918.16 Sex offenses; testimony of person under age 16		
20	or person with mental retardation; <u>testimony of victim;</u>		
21	courtroom cleared; exceptions.--		
22	<u>(1) Except as provided in subsection (2),</u> in the trial		
23	of any case, civil or criminal, when any person under the age		
24	of 16 or any person with mental retardation as defined in <u>s.</u>		
25	<u>393.063(44)</u> s. 393.063(41) is testifying concerning any sex		
26	offense, the court shall clear the courtroom of all persons		
27	except parties to the cause, <u>victims,</u> and their immediate		
28	families or guardians, attorneys and their secretaries,		
29	officers of the court, jurors, newspaper reporters or		
30	broadcasters, <u>and</u> court reporters, and at the request of the		
31	victim, victim or witness advocates designated by the state		

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1 attorney's office.

2 (2) When the victim of a sex offense is testifying
3 concerning that offense in any civil or criminal trial, the
4 court shall clear the courtroom of all persons upon the
5 request of the victim, regardless of his or her age or mental
6 capacity, except that parties to the cause, victims, and their
7 immediate families or guardians, attorneys and their
8 secretaries, officers of the court, jurors, newspaper
9 reporters or broadcasters, court reporters, and, at the
10 request of the victim, any victim or witness advocate
11 designated by the state attorney may remain in the courtroom.

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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15 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

16 And the title is amended as follows:

17 Delete everything before the enacting clause

18
19 and insert:

20 A bill to be entitled
21 An act relating to trial testimony concerning
22 sexual offenses; amending s. 918.16, F.S.;

23 requiring that the court clear the courtroom at
24 the request of a victim during his or her
25 testimony concerning a sexual offense,
26 regardless of the victim's age or mental
27 capacity; providing certain exceptions;
28 providing an effective date.

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