

By Senator Stewart

13-00249-19

2019130\_\_

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to the sexual battery prosecution time  
3       limitation; amending s. 775.15, F.S.; creating an  
4       exception to the general time limitations which allows  
5       a prosecution to be commenced at any time for  
6       specified sexual battery offenses against victims  
7       younger than a certain age at the time the offense was  
8       committed; providing applicability; providing an  
9       effective date.

10  
11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12  
13       Section 1. Subsection (20) is added to section 775.15,  
14       Florida Statutes, and subsection (2) of that section is  
15       republished, to read:

16       775.15 Time limitations; general time limitations;  
17       exceptions.—

18       (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section,  
19       prosecutions for other offenses are subject to the following  
20       periods of limitation:

21       (a) A prosecution for a felony of the first degree must be  
22       commenced within 4 years after it is committed.

23       (b) A prosecution for any other felony must be commenced  
24       within 3 years after it is committed.

25       (c) A prosecution for a misdemeanor of the first degree  
26       must be commenced within 2 years after it is committed.

27       (d) A prosecution for a misdemeanor of the second degree or  
28       a noncriminal violation must be commenced within 1 year after it  
29       is committed.

13-00249-19

2019130\_\_

30       (20) If a victim is younger than 18 years of age at the  
31 time the offense was committed, a prosecution for a violation of  
32 s. 794.011 may be commenced at any time. This subsection applies  
33 to an offense that is not otherwise barred from prosecution on  
34 or before July 1, 2019.

35       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.