

By the Committee on Criminal Justice; and Senators Stewart and Perry

591-00982-20

2020170c1

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to the time limitation on the  
3 prosecution of sexual battery cases; amending s.  
4 775.15, F.S.; providing that a prosecution may be  
5 commenced at any time for specified sexual battery  
6 offenses against victims who were younger than a  
7 certain age at the time the offense was committed;  
8 providing applicability; providing an effective date.

9  
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11  
12 Section 1. Subsection (20) is added to section 775.15,  
13 Florida Statutes, and subsection (2) of that section is  
14 republished, to read:

15 775.15 Time limitations; general time limitations;  
16 exceptions.—

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

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

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

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

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

29 (20) If a victim was younger than 18 years of age at the

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30 time the offense was committed, a prosecution for a violation of  
31 s. 794.011 may be commenced at any time. This subsection applies  
32 to an offense that is committed on or after July 1, 2020.

33 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.