

HB 167 -- STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

SPONSOR: Ellington

This bill changes the statute of limitations for certain offenses. In its main provisions, the bill specifies:

(1) There is no statute of limitation on any action for damages for personal injury caused to an individual by a person related to them within the third degree by blood or marriage who subjects the individual to sexual contact. Currently, there is a 10 year statute of limitation on this cause of action;

(2) There is no statute of limitation on any action to recover damages for injury or illness caused by childhood sexual abuse. Currently, there is a 10 year statute of limitations;

(3) Prosecutions for unlawful sexual offenses involving a person 18 years of age or under may be commenced at any time. Currently, such prosecutions must be commenced within 30 years after victim reaches the age of 18; and

(4) Prosecutions for child abuse may be commenced at any time.

This bill also changes these provisions in the newly revised criminal code that takes effect January 1, 2017.