



# House of Representatives

## File No. 720

General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**(Reprint of File No. 565)**

Substitute House Bill No. 5654  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedules "A", "B" and "C"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
May 10, 2001

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS ON THE  
PROSECUTION OF OFFENSES INVOLVING THE SEXUAL ASSAULT  
OF A MINOR.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 54-193a of the general statutes is repealed and the following  
2 is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 54-193, no person may be  
4 prosecuted for any offense involving sexual abuse, sexual exploitation  
5 or sexual assault of a minor except within [two] thirty years from the  
6 date the victim attains the age of majority or within five years from the  
7 date the victim notifies any police officer or state's attorney acting in  
8 [his] such police officer's or state's attorney's official capacity of the  
9 commission of the offense, whichever is earlier, provided in no event  
10 shall such period of time be less than five years after the commission of  
11 the offense.

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** Significant Cost, Potential Minimal Revenue Gain

**Affected Agencies:** Various Criminal Justice Agencies

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

**State Impact:**

The bill results in a significant cost to criminal justice agencies by extending the statute of limitations on sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or sexual assault of a minor. The number of cases that could qualify under the bill is unknown but due to the length of sentences that can occur, even a small number of convictions could result in significant cost to the state. Little revenue from fines is collected by the state for sexual assault crimes, therefore only a minimal revenue gain, if any, is anticipated as a result of the bill.

House Amendments "A" and "B" reduced the significant cost in the original bill by providing certain exceptions for a removal of the statute of limitations.

House "C" eliminated the fiscal impact of the original bill and resulted in the significant cost and potential minimal revenue gain described above.

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**OLR Amended Bill Analysis**

sHB 5654 (as amended by House "A", "B", and "C")\*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS ON THE PROSECUTION OF OFFENSES INVOLVING THE SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A MINOR.****SUMMARY:**

Under current law, the statute of limitations for sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or sexual assault of a minor is the earlier of two years after the victim reaches age 18 or up to five years from the date he notifies the police or a prosecutor of the crime. But in either case, the statute of limitations runs for at least five years after the crime was committed. This bill extends the period after the victim reaches age 18 from two to 30 years.

\*House Amendment "A" conditions the removal of the statute of limitations for second-degree sexual assault where the victim is between 13 and 16 and the offender is more than two years older on the victim's notification of the police or a prosecutor within five of the crime.

\*House Amendment "B" makes the bill inapplicable to crimes for which the statute of limitations has run by its effective date.

\*House Amendment "C" replaces the original bill and House "A" and House "B" with the provision that extends the statute of limitations after the victim reaches age 18 from two to 30 years.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 31      Nay 7

