
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5152

AN ACT EXTENDING THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR FAILURE TO MAKE A REPORT AS A MANDATED REPORTER AND REQUIRING CERTAIN YOUTH CAMP STAFF MEMBERS TO BE MANDATED REPORTERS.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a three-year criminal statute of limitations for prosecuting a mandated reporter for failure to report suspected child abuse or neglect as required on or after July 1, 2022. Under current law, the statute of limitations is either one or five years, depending on the circumstances.

By law, failure to report suspected child abuse or neglect is a class A misdemeanor if a mandated reporter fails to report within the prescribed time period, and a class E felony if the (1) violation is a subsequent violation; (2) violation is willful, intentional, or due to gross negligence; or (3) mandated reporter had actual knowledge that a child was abused or neglected or a student was the victim of sexual assault. Currently, these class A misdemeanors have a one-year statute of limitations, while the class E felonies have a five-year statute of limitations.

The bill also adds volunteer youth camp directors or assistant directors and paid or volunteer staff members age 18 or older to the statutory list of mandated reporters of suspected child abuse and neglect. By law, paid youth camp directors or assistant directors are already mandated reporters.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/10/2022)