Introduced by Committee on Judiciary

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Criminal procedures; statutes of limitations

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to extend the statute of limitations for several crimes.

An act relating to criminal statutes of limitations

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 4501 is amended to read:

§ 4501. LIMITATION OF PROSECUTIONS FOR CERTAIN CRIMES

(a) Prosecutions for aggravated sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault of a child, sexual assault, first degree aggravated domestic assault, human trafficking, aggravated human trafficking, murder, manslaughter, maiming, arson causing death, and kidnapping, unlawful restraint under section 2407 of this title, sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult under subsection 1379(b) of this title, lewd and lascivious conduct alleged to have been committed against a child under 18 years of age under section § 2601 of this title, sexual exploitation of a minor as defined in subsection 3258(c) of this title, lewd or lascivious conduct with a child under section § 2602 of this title, and sexual
exploitation of children under chapter 64 of this title may be commenced at any time after the commission of the offense.

(b) Prosecutions for manslaughter, lewd and lascivious conduct, prohibited conduct under section 2601a of this title, sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult under 13 V.S.A. § 1379(a), grand larceny, robbery, burglary, embezzlement, forgery, bribery offenses, false claims, fraud under 33 V.S.A. § 141(d), and felony tax offenses shall be commenced within six years after the commission of the offense, and not after.

(c) Prosecutions for any of the following offenses shall be commenced within 40 years after the commission of the offense, and not after:

1. lewd and lascivious conduct alleged to have been committed against a child under 18 years of age;
2. sexual exploitation of a minor as defined in subsection 3258(c) of this title;
3. lewd or lascivious conduct with a child;
4. sexual exploitation of children under chapter 64 of this title; and
5. manslaughter alleged to have been committed against a child under 18 years of age. [Repealed.]

(d) Prosecutions for arson shall be commenced within 11 years after the commission of the offense, and not after.
(e) Prosecutions for other felonies and for misdemeanors shall be
commenced within three years after the commission of the offense, and not
after.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.