

By: Representative Compretta

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1227

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 99-1-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE LIST OF OFFENSES EXEMPTED FROM THE TWO-YEAR LIMITATION
3 ON PROSECUTIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 99-1-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 99-1-5. A person shall not be prosecuted for any offense,
8 with the exception of murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault,
9 kidnapping, arson, burglary, forgery, counterfeiting, robbery,
10 larceny, rape, embezzlement, obtaining money or property under
11 false pretenses or by fraud, felonious abuse or battery of a child
12 as described in Section 97-5-39, touching or handling a child for
13 lustful purposes as described in Section 97-5-23, sexual battery
14 of a child as described in Section 97-3-95(c), exploitation of
15 children as described in Section 97-5-33, insurance fraud as
16 defined in Section 7-5-303, mail fraud as defined in Section
17 97-19-83, offenses involving public officials as provided in
18 Section 97-11-1 et seq. or false representation to defraud
19 government as defined in Section 97-7-10, unless the prosecution
20 for such offense be commenced within two (2) years next after the
21 commission thereof, but nothing contained in this section shall
22 bar any prosecution against any person who shall abscond or flee
23 from justice, or shall absent himself from this state or out of
24 the jurisdiction of the court, or so conduct himself that he
25 cannot be found by the officers of the law, or that process cannot
26 be served upon him.



27 Any prosecutions for felonious abuse or battery of a child as
28 described in Section 97-5-39, touching or handling a child for
29 lustful purposes as described in Section 97-5-23, sexual battery
30 of a child as described in Section 97-3-95(c) or exploitation of
31 children as described in Section 97-5-33, shall be commenced on or
32 before the child's twenty-first birthday.

33 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
34 and after July 1, 2002.

