

By: Senator(s) Blackwell

To: Judiciary, Division B

SENATE BILL NO. 2134

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 99-1-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT THE GENERAL TWO-YEAR STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS ON CRIMES
3 WILL NOT RUN AGAINST THE CRIME OF SEXUAL BATTERY; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

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

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

8 99-1-5. The passage of time shall never bar prosecution
9 against any person for the offenses of murder, manslaughter,
10 aggravated assault, aggravated domestic violence, kidnapping,
11 arson, burglary, forgery, counterfeiting, robbery, larceny, rape,
12 sexual battery, embezzlement, obtaining money or property under
13 false pretenses or by fraud, felonious abuse or battery of a child
14 as described in Section 97-5-39, touching or handling a child for
15 lustful purposes as described in Section 97-5-23, * * *
16 exploitation of children as described in Section 97-5-33,
17 promoting prostitution under Section 97-29-51(2) when the person
18 involved is a minor, or any human trafficking offense as described
19 in Section 97-3-54.1(1)(a), (1)(b) or (1)(c), Section 97-3-54.2,



20 or Section 97-3-54.3. A person shall not be prosecuted for
21 conspiracy, as described in Section 97-1-1, for felonious
22 assistance-program fraud, as described in Section 97-19-71, or for
23 felonious abuse of vulnerable persons, as described in Sections
24 43-47-18 and 43-47-19, unless the prosecution for the offense is
25 commenced within five (5) years next after the commission thereof.
26 A person shall not be prosecuted for larceny of timber as
27 described in Section 97-17-59, unless the prosecution for the
28 offense is commenced within six (6) years next after the
29 commission thereof. A person shall not be prosecuted for any
30 other offense not listed in this section unless the prosecution
31 for the offense is commenced within two (2) years next after the
32 commission thereof. Nothing contained in this section shall bar
33 any prosecution against any person who shall abscond or flee from
34 justice, or shall absent himself from this state or out of the
35 jurisdiction of the court, or so conduct himself that he cannot be
36 found by the officers of the law, or that process cannot be served
37 upon him.

38 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
39 and after July 1, 2023.

