

By: Representative Compretta

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 722

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 or false representation to defraud government as defined  
18 in Section 97-7-10, unless the prosecution for such offense be  
19 commenced within two (2) years next after the commission thereof,  
20 but nothing contained in this section shall bar any prosecution  
21 against any person who shall abscond or flee from justice, or  
22 shall absent himself from this state or out of the jurisdiction of  
23 the court, or so conduct himself that he cannot be found by the  
24 officers of the law, or that process cannot be served upon him.

25 Any prosecutions for felonious abuse or battery of a child as  
26 described in Section 97-5-39, touching or handling a child for  
27 lustful purposes as described in Section 97-5-23, sexual battery



28 of a child as described in Section 97-3-95(c) or exploitation of  
29 children as described in Section 97-5-33, shall be commenced on or  
30 before the child's twenty-first birthday.

31 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
32 and after July 1, 2001.

