

By: Senator(s) Burton

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2493

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 99-1-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REVISE THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS APPLICABLE TO CRIMINAL  
3 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, sexual battery, embezzlement, obtaining money or  
11 property under false pretenses or by fraud, felonious abuse or  
12 battery of a child as described in Section 97-5-39, touching or  
13 handling a child for lustful purposes as described in Section  
14 97-5-23 \* \* \* or exploitation of children as described in Section  
15 97-5-33, unless the prosecution for such offense be commenced  
16 within two (2) years next after the commission thereof, but  
17 nothing contained in this section shall bar any prosecution  
18 against any person who shall abscond or flee from justice, or  
19 shall absent himself from this state or out of the jurisdiction of  
20 the court, or so conduct himself that he cannot be found by the  
21 officers of the law, or that process cannot be served upon him.

22 Any prosecutions for felonious abuse or battery of a child as  
23 described in Section 97-5-39, touching or handling a child for  
24 lustful purposes as described in Section 97-5-23 \* \* \* or  
25 exploitation of children as described in Section 97-5-33, shall be  
26 commenced on or before the child's twenty-third birthday.



27           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
28 and after July 1, 2003.

