CHAPTER 2020-81
Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 199

An act relating to the sexual battery prosecution time limitation; providing a short title; amending s. 775.15, F.S.; creating an exception to the general time limitations which allows a prosecution to be commenced at any time for specified sexual battery offenses against victims younger than a certain age at the time the offense was committed; providing applicability; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. This act may be cited as “Donna’s Law.”

Section 2. Subsection (20) is added to section 775.15, Florida Statutes, and subsection (2) of that section is republished, to read:

775.15 Time limitations; general time limitations; exceptions.—

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, prosecutions for other offenses are subject to the following periods of limitation:

(a) A prosecution for a felony of the first degree must be commenced within 4 years after it is committed.

(b) A prosecution for any other felony must be commenced within 3 years after it is committed.

(c) A prosecution for a misdemeanor of the first degree must be commenced within 2 years after it is committed.

(d) A prosecution for a misdemeanor of the second degree or a noncriminal violation must be commenced within 1 year after it is committed.

(20) If a victim is younger than 18 years of age at the time the offense was committed, a prosecution for a violation of s. 794.011 may be commenced at any time. This subsection applies to an offense that is committed on or after July 1, 2020.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

Approved by the Governor June 23, 2020.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 23, 2020.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.