

Senate Bill No. 698

An act relating to the statute of limitations for prosecuting certain sexual offenses; amending s. 775.15, F.S.; revising the date on which the applicable statute of limitations begins for certain sexual offenses committed against a minor; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 775.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

775.15 Time limitations.—

(7) If the victim of a violation of s. 794.011, former s. 794.05, Florida Statutes 1995, s. 800.04, or s. 826.04 is under the age of 18 ~~16~~, the applicable period of limitation, if any, does not begin to run until the victim has reached the age of 18 ~~16~~ or the violation is reported to a law enforcement agency or other governmental agency, whichever occurs earlier. Such law enforcement agency or other governmental agency shall promptly report such allegation to the state attorney for the judicial circuit in which the alleged violation occurred. If the offense is a first or second degree felony violation of s. 794.011, and the crime is reported within 72 hours after its commission, paragraph (1)(b) applies. This subsection applies to any such offense except an offense the prosecution of which would have been barred by subsection (2) on or before December 31, 1984.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2001.

Approved by the Governor May 31, 2001.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 31, 2001.