

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Criminal statute of limitations; maltreatment of minors

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This bill extends the criminal statute of limitations period for crimes involving the failure of a mandatory reporter to report suspected physical or sexual abuse of a child. The current limitations period is three years from commission of the offense. This bill would provide that charges may be filed within the later of nine years after the mandatory reporter failed to make a required report, or within three years after failure to make the report is discovered by law enforcement.

Mandatory reporters include medical, mental health, and social services professionals, child care and education professionals, law enforcement and correction employees, and clergy (if information is not privileged).