



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

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Legislative Document

No. 2207

H.P. 1484

House of Representatives, February 10, 2026

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### An Act Regarding the Statute of Limitations for Certain Sexual Offenses Committed Against Minors

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Reported by Representative KUHN of Falmouth for the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Public Law 2025, chapter 479, section 2.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

*R. B. Hunt*  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §8, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2023, c. 475, §2 and affected by §3, is further amended to read:**

B. If the victim had not attained the age of 18 years at the time of the crime, a prosecution for incest; unlawful sexual contact; sexual abuse of a minor; rape or gross sexual assault, formerly denominated as gross sexual misconduct; unlawful sexual touching; aggravated sex trafficking; commercial sexual exploitation of a minor; or sexual exploitation of a minor.

**Sec. 2. 17-A MRSA §8, sub-§2-A**, as amended by PL 2025, c. 479, §1, is further amended to read:

**2-A.** A Except as provided in subsection 1, paragraph B, a prosecution for a Class A, Class B or Class C crime involving unlawful sexual contact or gross sexual assault or a prosecution for a Class A or Class B crime involving aggravated sex trafficking must be commenced within 20 years after it is committed.

This subsection does not apply to a Class D crime enhanced to a Class C crime pursuant to section 1604, subsection 5, paragraph B.

### Sec. 3. Application.

1. This Act applies to the crime of aggravated sex trafficking under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 852 committed on or after the effective date of this Act or for which the prosecution has not yet been barred by the statute of limitations in force immediately prior to the effective date of this Act.

2. This Act applies to the crime of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 855, subsection 1 committed on or after the effective date of this Act or for which the prosecution has not yet been barred by the statute of limitations in force immediately prior to the effective date of this Act.

## SUMMARY

This bill is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Public Law 2025, chapter 479, section 2. The committee has not taken a position on the substance of this bill. By reporting this bill out, the committee is not suggesting and does not intend to suggest that it agrees or disagrees with any aspect of this bill. The committee is reporting the bill out for the sole purpose of having a bill printed that can be referred to the committee for an appropriate public hearing and subsequent processing in the normal course. The committee is taking this action to ensure clarity and transparency in the legislative review of the proposals contained in the bill.

The bill eliminates the statute of limitations for prosecution of the crime of aggravated sex trafficking committed against a victim who had not attained the age of 18 years at the time of the crime and for prosecution of the crime of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor against a victim who had not attained the age of 18 years at the time of the crime. These changes do not apply to criminal conduct occurring prior to the effective date of this legislation or for which the prosecution has been barred by the statute of limitations in force immediately prior to the effective date of this legislation.