

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

A Bill

SENATE BILL 204

By: Senator D. Wallace
By: Representative Gazaway

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE JUSTICE FOR VULNERABLE VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE ACT; TO REMOVE THE AGE LIMITATION FOR A VULNERABLE VICTIM TO BRING A CIVIL ACTION; TO AMEND THE COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR A CIVIL ACTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE JUSTICE FOR VULNERABLE VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE ACT; TO REMOVE THE AGE LIMITATION FOR A VULNERABLE VICTIM TO BRING A CIVIL ACTION; AND TO AMEND THE COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR A CIVIL ACTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-118-118(b), concerning the statute of limitation for a civil action brought by a vulnerable victim under the Justice for Vulnerable Victims of Sexual Abuse Act, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Notwithstanding any other statute of limitation or any other law that may be construed to reduce the statutory period set forth in this section, ~~before he or she reaches fifty five (55) years of age~~ a vulnerable victim may bring a civil action against any party who committed sexual abuse against the vulnerable victim or whose tortious conduct caused the vulnerable victim to be a victim of sexual abuse.



(2) Notwithstanding any other statute of limitation or any other law that may be construed to reduce the statutory period set forth in this section, a civil action similar to a civil action described in subdivision (b)(1) of this section, including a cause of action arising before, on, or after July 28, 2021, that was barred or dismissed due to a statute of limitation is revived, and the civil action may be commenced not earlier than six (6) months after and not later than thirty (30) months after ~~July 28, 2021~~ the effective date of this act.

APPROVED: 4/11/23