

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **79th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1993**  
4 **By: Senator Gordon**

# A Bill

**SENATE BILL**

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR CIVIL  
9 ACTIONS FOR CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE; AND FOR OTHER  
10 PURPOSES."

## Subtitle

13 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR CIVIL  
14 ACTIONS FOR CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE."

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

18 SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding any other statute of limitations or any  
19 other provision of law that can be construed to reduce the statutory period  
20 set forth in this section, any civil action based on sexual abuse which  
21 occurred when the injured person was a minor, but was not discovered until  
22 after the injured person reaches the age of majority, shall be brought within  
23 three (3) years from the time of discovery of the sexual abuse by the injured  
24 party.

25 (b) A claim based on an assertion of more than one (1) act of sexual  
26 abuse is not limited to the injured party\_s first discovery of the  
27 relationship between any one (1) of those acts and the injury or condition,  
28 but may be based on the injured party\_s discovery of the effect of the series  
29 of acts. It is not necessary for the injured party to establish which act, in  
30 a series of acts of childhood sexual abuse, caused the injury or condition  
31 that is the subject of the lawsuit.

32 (c) For the purposes of this section:

33 (1) "Childhood Sexual Abuse" means sexual abuse which occurred  
34 when the injured person was a minor;

35 (2) "Minor" means a person of less than eighteen (18) years of

1 age;

2           (3) "Time of discovery" means when the injured party discovers  
3 the effect of the injury or condition attributable to the childhood sexual  
4 abuse.

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6           SECTION 2. This act is applicable to all actions filed on or after the  
7 effective date of the act.

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9           SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
10 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
11 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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13           SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
14 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
15 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
16 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
17 act are declared to be severable.

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19           SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
20 hereby repealed.

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