



Fact Sheet Series for the 133rd General Assembly

House Bills 470, 471, and 472 (Representative John M. Rogers, 1/14/2020)

As introduced

Eliminate limitation period for rape/extend for child abuse

Representative John Rogers introduced House Bills 470, 471, and 472 as part of an overall strategy to combat statute of limitations issues faced by survivors of adult and child sexual violence. House Bill 470 contains the entire strategy, while House Bills 471 and 472 contain each individual part in isolation.

Under Current Law:

- In the criminal system, a prosecution for rape must be brought within twenty-five (25) years after the offense is committed.¹
- In the civil system, a survivor of child sexual abuse must file any lawsuit for assault or battery arising from the child sexual abuse within twelve (12) years of that person reaching the age of eighteen (18).

House Bill 470 Would:

- Eliminate the criminal statute of limitations for 2907.02 Rape.
- Extend the civil statute of limitations for child sexual abuse in the following manner:
 - A survivor of child sexual abuse would have until they reach the age of 55 to file a civil lawsuit for assault or battery arising from the child sexual abuse
 - If the defendant in a case resulting from abuse that occurred on or after August 3, 2006 fraudulently concealed the abuse from the survivor, and the survivor has reached the age of fifty-five (55) prior to discovering the abuse, the survivor may file a lawsuit for assault and battery stemming from child sexual abuse until three years from the discovery date.

House Bill 471 Would:

- Extend the civil statute of limitations for child sexual abuse in the following manner:
 - A survivor of child sexual abuse would have until they reach the age of 55 to file a civil lawsuit for assault or battery arising from the child sexual abuse
 - If the defendant in a case resulting from abuse that occurred on or after August 3, 2006 fraudulently concealed the abuse from the survivor, and the survivor has reached the age of fifty-five (55) prior to discovering the abuse, the survivor may file a lawsuit for assault and battery stemming from child sexual abuse until three years from the discovery date.

House Bill 472 Would:

- Eliminate the criminal statute of limitations for 2907.02 Rape.

¹ R.C. 2901(A)(2) and (4).