

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

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Legislative Document

No. 2207

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H.P. 1484

House of Representatives, February 10, 2026

### **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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

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

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

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

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

11 **2-A.** A Except as provided in subsection 1, paragraph B, a prosecution for a Class A,  
12 Class B or Class C crime involving unlawful sexual contact or gross sexual assault or a  
13 prosecution for a Class A or Class B crime involving aggravated sex trafficking must be  
14 commenced within 20 years after it is committed.

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

17 **Sec. 3. Application.**

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

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

26 **SUMMARY**

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

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