

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1138

S.P. 415

In Senate, April 4, 1995

**An Act to Remove the Statute of Limitations in Cases of Sexual Abuse
of a Minor.**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CASSIDY of Washington.

Cosponsored by Senators: BENOIT of Franklin, BUTLAND of Cumberland, CAREY of Kennebec, ESTY of Cumberland, FERGUSON of Oxford, KIEFFER of Aroostook, LORD of York, PENDEXTER of Cumberland, RAND of Cumberland, Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, AULT of Wayne, BAILEY of Township 27, BERRY of Livermore, BUCK of Yarmouth, CAMPBELL of Holden, CLARK of Millinocket, CROSS of Dover-Foxcroft, DEXTER of Kingfield, HICHBORN of LaGrange, JACQUES of Waterville, KILKELLY of Wiscasset, KNEELAND of Easton, LAYTON of Cherryfield, LIBBY of Buxton, MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth, PENDLETON of Scarborough, POVICH of Ellsworth, REED of Falmouth, ROSEBUSH of East Millinocket, TRUE of Fryeburg, TYLER of Windham, VIGUE of Winslow.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §752-C**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 176, §1, is
further amended to read:

6 **§752-C. Sexual acts towards minors**

8 Actions based upon sexual intercourse, as defined in Title
10 17-A, section 556, subsection 1-B, or a sexual act, as defined in
12 Title 17-A, chapter 11, with a person who is 16 years of age or
14 older and under the age of majority must be commenced within 12
16 years after the cause of action accrues, or within 6 years of the
18 time the person discovers or reasonably should have discovered
the harm, whichever occurs later. Actions based on sexual
intercourse, as defined in Title 17-A, section 556, subsection
1-B, or a sexual act, as defined in Title 17-A, chapter 11, with
a person who is under 16 years of age may be commenced at any
time after the cause of action accrues.

20
22 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

24 This bill eliminates the statute of limitations for civil
26 actions based on sexual intercourse or sexual acts with minors
under the age of 16 years.