

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 178

S.P. 60

In Senate, January 16, 2007

An Act Regarding the Reporting of Sexual Abuse

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator: DIAMOND of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §752-C, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

3 **3. Revival of time-barred actions; 2-year window.** Notwithstanding Public Law
4 1999, chapter 639, section 2, a claim for damages based upon a sexual act toward a minor
5 that was barred as of August 11, 2000 solely because the applicable statute of limitations
6 had expired is revived and in that case an action may be commenced within 2 years of
7 January 1, 2008.

8 **SUMMARY**

9 This bill is modeled on the California statute that revived sexual abuse suits that were
10 time-barred by creating a one-year window during which potential plaintiffs were able to
11 file civil suits against alleged perpetrators of the sexual abuse.

12 This bill creates a 2-year window for claims for which the statute of limitations had
13 expired at the time the current law, which imposes no statute of limitations, took effect:
14 August 11, 2000. Starting January 1, 2008, persons who were victims of child sexual
15 abuse have the opportunity to file civil suits if the action was time-barred as of August
16 11, 2000. The revival of these causes of action lasts through the end of 2009.