

By: Johnson

H.B. No. 179

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to elimination of limitations periods for suits for personal injury arising from certain offenses against a child.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 16.003(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Sections 16.010, 16.0031, ~~and~~ 16.0045, and 16.0046, a person must bring suit for trespass for injury to the estate or to the property of another, conversion of personal property, taking or detaining the personal property of another, personal injury, forcible entry and detainer, and forcible detainer not later than two years after the day the cause of action accrues.

SECTION 2. Section 16.0045(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person must bring suit for personal injury not later than 30 years after the day the cause of action accrues if the injury arises as a result of conduct that violates:

(1) ~~[Section 22.011(a)(2), Penal Code (sexual assault of a child),~~

~~(2) Section 22.021(a)(1)(B), Penal Code (aggravated sexual assault of a child),~~

~~(3)]~~ Section 21.02, Penal Code (continuous sexual abuse of young child or disabled individual), unless the victim is a

1 child younger than 14 years of age;

2 (2) [~~(4)~~] Section 20A.02(a)(7)(A), [~~(B)~~], (C), (D),
3 or (H) or Section 20A.02(a)(8), Penal Code, involving an activity
4 described by Section 20A.02(a)(7)(A), [~~(B)~~], (C), (D), or (H) or
5 sexual conduct with a [~~child or~~] disabled individual trafficked in
6 the manner described by Section 20A.02(a)(7), Penal Code (certain
7 sexual trafficking); or

8 (3) [~~(5)~~] Section 43.05(a)(3) [~~43.05(a)(2) or (3)~~],
9 Penal Code (compelling prostitution by a [~~child or~~] disabled
10 individual) [~~or~~

11 [~~(6) Section 21.11, Penal Code (indecent with a~~
12 ~~child)~~].

13 SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 16, Civil Practice and
14 Remedies Code, is amended by adding Section 16.0046 to read as
15 follows:

16 Sec. 16.0046. NO LIMITATIONS PERIOD. A person may bring a
17 suit for personal injury at any time if the injury arises as a
18 result of conduct that violates:

19 (1) Section 22.011(a)(2), Penal Code (sexual assault
20 of a child);

21 (2) Section 22.021(a)(1)(B), Penal Code (aggravated
22 sexual assault of a child);

23 (3) Section 21.02, Penal Code (continuous sexual abuse
24 of young child or disabled individual), if the victim is a child
25 younger than 14 years of age;

26 (4) Section 20A.02(a)(7)(A), (B), (C), (D), or (H) or
27 Section 20A.02(a)(8), Penal Code, involving an activity described

1 by Section 20A.02(a)(7)(A), (B), (C), (D), or (H), if the victim is
2 a child, or sexual conduct with a child trafficked in the manner
3 described by Section 20A.02(a)(7), Penal Code (certain sexual
4 trafficking of a child);

5 (5) Section 43.05(a)(2), Penal Code (compelling
6 prostitution by a child); or

7 (6) Section 21.11, Penal Code (indecenty with a
8 child).

9 SECTION 4. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this
10 section, the changes in law made by this Act apply to a cause of
11 action that accrues before, on, or after the effective date of this
12 Act, regardless of whether:

13 (1) the limitations period applicable to the cause of
14 action immediately before the effective date of this Act expired
15 before the effective date of this Act; or

16 (2) the cause of action was the subject of a claim for
17 which a limitations period applicable to the cause of action before
18 the effective date of this Act was determinative.

19 (b) The changes in law made by this Act do not affect a
20 judgment in litigation:

21 (1) that became final before the effective date of
22 this Act; and

23 (2) for which the limitations period applicable to the
24 cause of action before the effective date of this Act was not
25 determinative.

26 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.