

## **CS/SB 170 – Time Limitation on the Prosecution of Sexual Battery Cases (Similar CS/HB 199)**

This bill amends s. 775.15, F.S., adding the following exception to the list of time limitations that prosecutions for other offenses are subject to: If a victim was younger than 18 years of age at the time the offense was committed, a prosecution for a violation of s. 794.011, F.S. may be commenced at any time. This subsection applies to an offense that is committed on or after July 1, 2020.” Currently, a violation of s. 794.011, F.S. can be prosecuted at any time if the victim was under 16 years of age at the time of the offense. Therefore, this bill would apply to those victims who were 16 or 17 years of age at the time of the offense. Currently, all but one of the offenses listed under s. 794.011, F.S. has a 4 year period of limitation, with one offense having a 3 year period of limitation.

It is not possible to separate those offenses where victims were 16 or 17 years of age from the other ages in most of these felonies, so it is not known how many offenders would be impacted by this bill. However, of those felonies where these victims are included, in FY 17-18, there were 87 (adj.) where the offense was committed more than three years before sentencing and 75 (adj.) where it was committed more than four years before sentencing, roughly 26%-30% of the total offenses. Given the lack of data on how many victims would be impacted by this change to statute, the prison bed impact cannot be determined.

**CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Positive Insignificant**

**Requested by: Senate & House**