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By: **Delegate Anderson**

Introduced and read first time: February 16, 2005

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Civil Actions - Child Sexual Abuse - Statute of Limitations**

3 FOR the purpose of extending the statute of limitations in certain civil actions  
4 relating to child sexual abuse; providing for the application of this Act; requiring  
5 that certain actions be filed within a certain period of time; and generally  
6 relating to child sexual abuse.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
9 Section 5-117  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

12 BY repealing  
13 Chapter 360 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2003  
14 Section 2

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

18 5-117.

19 (a) In this section, "sexual abuse" has the meaning stated in § 5-701 of the  
20 Family Law Article.

21 (b) An action for damages arising out of an alleged incident or incidents of  
22 sexual abuse that occurred while the victim was a minor shall be filed within [7] 28  
23 years of the date that the victim attains the age of majority.

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**Chapter 360 of the Acts of 2003**

2 [SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act may not be  
3 construed to apply retroactively to revive any action that was barred by the  
4 application of the period of limitations applicable before October 1, 2003.]

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to Section 3 of  
6 this Act, this Act shall be construed to apply retroactively to revive any action that  
7 was barred by the application of the period of limitations applicable before October 1,  
8 2005.

9 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any action that was  
10 barred by the application of the period of limitations applicable before October 1,  
11 2005, shall be filed on or before October 1, 2006.

12 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
13 October 1, 2005.