

HB613 INTRODUCED



1 HB613

2 JPRJ5NY-1

3 By Representatives Hollis, Hall, Morris, Daniels, Travis,
4 Rafferty, England, McCampbell, Gray, Chestnut, Ensler, Clarke,
5 Forte, Lands, Tillman, Jackson, Lawrence, Jones, Bracy, Moore
6 (M), Datcher, Sellers

7 RFD: Judiciary

8 First Read: 24-Apr-25



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4 SYNOPSIS:

5 Under existing law, a civil action based on a
6 sex offense committed against an individual 19 years of
7 age or younger must be brought within six years of that
8 individual's 19th birthday.

9 This bill would revive time-barred civil claims
10 involving a sex offense against a minor for a period of
11 10 years.

12 This bill would require the Attorney General to
13 conduct an informational campaign about the revived
14 period to bring a claim.

15 This bill would also prohibit any entity from
16 discriminating against an individual who brings a claim
17 under this act.

18 This bill would also specify that the
19 legislation is contingent on the ratification of a
20 constitutional amendment authorizing the Legislature to
21 revive time-barred rights and remedies relating to
22 child sexual abuse.

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A BILL

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TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

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29 Relating to child sexual abuse; to revive certain
30 time-barred civil claims for sex offenses committed against a
31 minor for a period of 10 years; to require the Attorney
32 General to conduct a public awareness campaign; to prohibit
33 certain entities from discriminating against an individual who
34 brings a a claim under this act; and to specify that the act
35 is contingent on the ratification of a constitutional
36 amendment authorizing the Legislature to revive time-barred
37 rights and remedies relating to child sexual abuse.

38 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

39 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as
40 The Light of Justice Act.

50 (b) A claim described in subsection (a) may be brought
51 against both of the following:

52 (1) The individual alleged to have committed the sex
53 offense.

54 (2) Any entity or organization entrusted with the
55 well-being of minors which knew or should have known of the
56 sexual abuse which is the subject of the claim and failed to

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57 take reasonable steps to prevent it. This subdivision
58 includes, but is not limited to, religious institutions,
59 private academic institutions, health care providers, social
60 service agencies, and youth organizations.

61 (c) The Attorney General shall develop and implement a
62 public awareness campaign to inform survivors of sexual abuse
63 of their rights under this act, including the revived time
64 period to bring an action under subsection (a) and resources
65 to assist survivors in pursuing those claims.

66 (d) No employer, institution, or other entity may
67 retaliate against any individual for filing a claim under this
68 act.

69 Section 3. This act shall become effective on January
70 1, 2027, contingent on the ratification of an amendment to the
71 Constitution of Alabama of 2022, proposed in the 2025 Regular
72 Session, authorizing the Legislature to revive rights and
73 remedies relating to child sexual abuse.