
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 951 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY MURT, ROZZI, V. BROWN, COHEN, KINSEY, McNEILL,
TAYLOR, YOUNGBLOOD AND ZIMMERMAN, APRIL 10, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 10, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in limitation of time,
3 further providing for civil action arising from childhood
4 sexual abuse.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 5533(b) (2) of Title 42 of the
8 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 5533. Infancy, insanity or imprisonment.

10 * * *

11 (b) Infancy.--

12 * * *

13 (2) (i) If an individual entitled to bring a civil
14 action arising from childhood sexual abuse is under 18
15 years of age at the time the cause of action accrues, the
16 individual shall have [a]:

17 (A) A period of 12 years after attaining 18
18 years of age in which to commence an action for
19 damages regardless of whether the individual files a

1 criminal complaint regarding the childhood sexual
2 abuse.

3 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of clause (A)
4 or any other provision of law to the contrary, in the
5 case of an individual entitled to bring a civil
6 action arising from childhood sexual abuse where the
7 12-year period in clause (A) has expired, the
8 individual shall have an additional period of two
9 years from the effective date of this clause to
10 commence an action.

11 (ii) For the purposes of this paragraph, the term
12 "childhood sexual abuse" shall include, but not be
13 limited to, the following sexual activities between a
14 minor and an adult, provided that the individual bringing
15 the civil action engaged in such activities as a result
16 of forcible compulsion or by threat of forcible
17 compulsion which would prevent resistance by a person of
18 reasonable resolution:

19 (A) sexual intercourse, which includes
20 penetration, however slight, of any body part or
21 object into the sex organ of another;

22 (B) deviate sexual intercourse, which includes
23 sexual intercourse per os or per anus; and

24 (C) indecent contact, which includes any
25 touching of the sexual or other intimate parts of the
26 person for the purpose of arousing or gratifying
27 sexual desire in either person.

28 (iii) For purposes of this paragraph, "forcible
29 compulsion" shall have the meaning given to it in 18
30 Pa.C.S. § 3101 (relating to definitions).

1 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.