



## 1997 ASSEMBLY BILL 90

February 12, 1997 - Introduced by Representatives KRUSICK, BALDWIN, BOCK, LAZICH, J. LEHMAN, PLALE and WASSERMAN, cosponsored by Senators BUETTNER, DARLING, PLACHE and RISSER. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Corrections.

1     **AN ACT to repeal** 939.74 (2) (d); and **to amend** 939.74 (2) (c) of the statutes;  
2     **relating to:** time limits for prosecution of crimes against children.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, generally the time limit for commencing criminal actions is 6 years for a felony and 3 years for a misdemeanor, as measured from the date that the criminal act was committed. One of the exceptions to the general rule is for serious crimes against children (such as sexual assault, physical abuse and incest with a child), which must be commenced before the victim reaches the age of 26 years. Another exception to the general rule is for repeated acts of sexual assault against a child, which may be commenced within the general time limits or until the victim becomes 25 years of age, whichever is later.

This bill requires that a criminal action for a serious crime against a child, including repeated acts of sexual assault against a child, be commenced before the victim becomes 35 years of age.

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*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

3     **SECTION 1.** 939.74 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

