



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2011 Wisconsin Act 271
[2011 Senate Bill 536]

Sexual Crimes Involving Children

2011 Wisconsin Act 271 relates to prosecution time limits for the offense of trafficking a child, possession of child pornography, termination of parental rights after committing the offense of trafficking a child, criminal procedure, crime victim compensation, and providing a penalty. The provisions of the Act were requested by the state's Attorney General.

The Act makes a number of changes relating to sexual crimes involving children:

- Allows prosecution for child trafficking until the victim reaches age 45, rather than age 24, as is allowed under prior law for other offenses involving a child victim.
- Allows prosecution for *accessing* a pornographic image of a child with the intent to view the image, in addition to the prosecution already allowed for *possession* of a pornographic image of a child.
- Allows the rape shield law to apply to a victim of child enticement, solicitation of a child for prostitution, and sexual intercourse with a child age 16 or over.
- Allows a chief judge to authorize wire-tapping for an offense of sexual exploitation of a child, child trafficking, child enticement, use of a computer to facilitate a child sex crime, and solicitation of a child for prostitution, in addition to other serious offenses for which wire-tapping is already allowed.
- Allows victim compensation for an offense of sexual exploitation of a child, incest with a child, use of a computer to facilitate a child sex crime, solicitation of a child for prostitution, and sexual intercourse with a child age 16 or over, in addition to other offenses for which victim compensation is already allowed.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.

- Allows a court to terminate a person's parental rights if the parent committed child trafficking of any child.

Effective date: 2011 Wisconsin Act 271 is effective April 24, 2012. The Act allows prosecution for child trafficking until the victim reaches age 45 for any victim who has not yet reached age 24 on April 24, 2012.

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