



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ACT MEMO**

2011 Wisconsin Act 282 [2011 Assembly Bill 552]	Statute of Limitations for Certain Sexual Assault and Homicide Crimes
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2011 Wisconsin Act 282 eliminates the statute of limitations for prosecuting certain crimes and attempted crimes.

CURRENT LAW

A felony must generally be prosecuted within six years of the commission of the crime. However, specific felony crimes are exempted from the statute of limitations and may be prosecuted at any time. A felony that is not enumerated as an exemption cannot be prosecuted more than six years beyond the date of the crime.

2011 WISCONSIN ACT 282

Act 282 expands the list of felonies that are exempt from the six-year statute of limitations for prosecuting felonies. The Act provides that an individual may be prosecuted at any time for the following felony crimes:

- First degree sexual assault.
- Attempted 1st degree sexual assault of an adult.
- Attempted 1st degree sexual assault of a child.
- Attempted 1st degree intentional homicide.
- Attempted 2nd degree intentional homicide.

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/>.

The Act first applies to crimes for which the statute of limitations has not yet run. An offender who commits one of the specified felonies within the six years prior to the Act's effective date, or longer if the time limit was tolled or otherwise extended, may be prosecuted at any time.

Effective date: The Act takes effect on April 27, 2012.

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