



2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 634

January 21, 2014 – Introduced by Representatives STEINEKE, BIES, T. LARSON, RIPP and MURSAU, cosponsored by Senator KEDZIE. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 939.74 (2) (am) and 943.06 (1) of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 statute of limitations for arson crimes and the definition of a Molotov cocktail.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a prosecution for the felony crime of arson must be commenced within six years of the violation. This bill changes that time limit to 15 years for arson of buildings, arson of property other than a building, and arson with the intent to defraud. This bill first applies the change to these arson offenses that, as of the effective date of this bill, have not been barred from prosecution under the six-year statute of limitation.

Current law defines, in part, a “fire bomb” (commonly known as a Molotov cocktail) as a breakable container. This bill removes the requirement that the container be breakable.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 939.74 (2) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:
4 939.74 (2) (am) A prosecution under s. 940.06, 943.02, 943.03, or 943.04 may
5 be commenced within 15 years after the commission of the violation.

6 **SECTION 2.** 943.06 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

