

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 02/29/16

**Action:** Do Pass.

**Meeting Dates:** 02/29

**Vote:**

Yeas: 9 - Barnhart, Gilliam, Hoyle, Huffman, Kennemer, Rayfield, Smith Warner, Williamson, Wilson

**Prepared By:** Erin Seiler, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Authorizes prosecution of first-degree sex crimes any time after commission of crime if prosecuting attorney obtains additional corroborating evidence of crime. Requires prosecuting attorney to present evidence reasonably tending to negate guilt to grand jury.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Need for and type of corroborating evidence necessary for prosecution
- Types of first-degree sex crimes that could be subject to unlimited statute of limitations
- Recent legislative actions to address deficiencies in prosecution of sex crimes
- Access to justice for victims of sex crimes
- Work group collaboration and process to produce legislation

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Senate Bill 1600 allows an unlimited statute of limitations for first-degree sex crimes when there is additional corroborating evidence of the crime. This corroborating evidence can be through non-DNA physical evidence, such as a video tape or recording; a confession by the defendant to that particular crime; statements made by the victim that are made close in time to the alleged crime; or when multiple victims come forward alleging crimes similar enough to be on the same charging instrument.