Senate Bill 793
Sponsored by Senators GELSER, KNOPP; Senators FAGAN, TAYLOR, THATCHER

SUMMARY
The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Provides that action based on sexual assault or knowingly allowing, permitting or encouraging sexual assault that occurs when person is 18 years of age or older must be commenced within seven years from date person discovers, or in exercise of reasonable care should have discovered, causal connection between sexual assault and injury.

Revives certain claims previously barred by statute of limitations.

 Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT
Relating to the statute of limitations for actions arising out of sexual assault; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 12.

SECTION 2. (1) Notwithstanding ORS 12.110, 12.115 or 12.160, an action based on conduct that constitutes sexual assault or conduct knowingly allowing, permitting or encouraging sexual assault that occurs when a person is 18 years of age or older must be commenced within seven years from the date the person discovers, or in the exercise of reasonable care should have discovered, the causal connection between the sexual assault and the injury.

(2) As used in this section, “sexual assault” includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

(a) The commission or attempted commission of any type of sexual contact or behavior without the explicit consent of the recipient, regardless of whether the contact or behavior is committed for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of any party;

(b) Rape, which includes but is not limited to rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual penetration and incest, as those acts are defined in ORS chapter 163;

(c) Sexual abuse, as that act is defined in ORS chapter 163; or

(d) Sexual exploitation, which includes but is not limited to trafficking in persons and subjecting another person to involuntary servitude, as those acts are defined in ORS chapter 163.

(3) Nothing in this section creates a new cause of action or enlarges any existing cause of action.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, section 2 of this 2019 Act applies to all actions commenced on or after the effective date of this 2019 Act, including any action that would have been barred by application of any period of limitations prior to the effective date of this 2019 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect immediately.

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in boldfaced type.

LC 3331
on its passage.