

2026 -- H 8086

LC005630

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- INDICTMENTS, INFORMATIONS AND COMPLAINTS

Introduced By: Representatives McEntee, Caldwell, Knight, Bennett, McNamara, Dawson, Spears, O'Brien, Read, and Casey

Date Introduced: February 27, 2026

Referred To: House Judiciary

(Attorney General)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 12-12-17 of the General Laws in Chapter 12-12 entitled "Indictments,  
2 Informations and Complaints" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **12-12-17. Statute of limitations.**

4 (a) There shall be no statute of limitations for the following offenses: treason against the  
5 state; any homicide, arson, first-degree arson, second-degree arson, third-degree arson, burglary,  
6 counterfeiting, forgery, robbery, rape, first-degree sexual assault, first-degree child molestation  
7 sexual assault, second-degree child molestation sexual assault, bigamy; manufacturing, selling,  
8 distribution, or possession with intent to manufacture, sell, or distribute, a controlled substance  
9 under the Uniform Controlled Substance Act, chapter 28 of title 21; or any other offense for which  
10 the maximum penalty provided is life imprisonment.

11 (b) The statute of limitations for the following offenses shall be ten (10) years: larceny  
12 under § 11-41-2 (receiving stolen goods), § 11-41-3 (embezzlement and fraudulent conversion), §  
13 11-41-4 (obtaining property by false pretenses or personation), § 11-41-11 (embezzlement by bank  
14 officer or employee), § 11-41-12 (fraudulent conversion by agent or factor), and § 11-41-13  
15 (obtaining signature by false pretenses), or any larceny that is punishable as a felony; any violation  
16 of chapter 7 of title 11 (bribery); any violation of § 11-18-1 (giving false document to agent,  
17 employee, or public official); perjury; any violation of chapter 42 of title 11 (threats and extortion);  
18 any violation of chapter 15 of title 7 (racketeer influenced and corrupt organizations); any violation

1 of chapter 57 of title 11 (racketeer violence); any violation of chapter 36 of title 6 (antitrust law);  
2 any violation of § 11-68-2 (exploitation of an elder); any violation of § 11-41-11.1 (unlawful  
3 appropriation); any violation of § 11-18-6 (false financial statement to obtain loan or credit); any  
4 violation of § 19-9-28 (false statement to obtain a loan); any violation of § 19-9-29 (bank fraud);  
5 or any violation of § 11-18-34 (residential mortgage fraud). The statute of limitations for § 11-37-  
6 4 (second degree sexual assault) shall be ten (10) years from the date of the offense, or, in the case  
7 of a victim who is under the age of eighteen (18) at the time of the offense, ten (10) years from the  
8 victim's eighteenth birthday, whichever is later.

9 (c) The statute of limitations for any other criminal offense shall be three (3) years, unless  
10 a longer statute of limitations is otherwise provided for in the general laws.

11 (d) Any person who participates in any offense, either as a principal accessory or  
12 conspirator, shall be subject to the same statute of limitations as if the person had committed the  
13 substantive offense. In the case of a violation of § 11-37-6 (third degree sexual assault), the three  
14 (3) years shall be measured from the date of the victim's eighteenth birthday, not from the date of  
15 the offense.

16 (e) The statute of limitations for any violation of chapter 18.9 of title 23 (refuse disposal),  
17 chapter 19 of title 23 (solid waste management corporation), chapter 19.1 of title 23 (hazardous  
18 waste management), chapter 12 of title 46 (water pollution), and chapter 13 of title 46 (public  
19 drinking water supply) shall be seven (7) years from the time that the facts constituting the offense  
20 or violation shall have become known to law enforcement authorities, unless a longer statute of  
21 limitations is otherwise provided for in the general laws.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would provide that the statute of limitations for second-degree sexual assault shall  
2 be ten (10) years from the date of the offense, or, in the case of a victim who is under the age of  
3 eighteen (18), ten (10) years from the victim's eighteenth birthday, whichever is later. The act  
4 would also provide that the statute of limitations for third-degree sexual assault will be measured  
5 from the date of the victim's eighteenth birthday, not from the date of the offense.

6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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