

**Senate File 2134 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2134

BY PETERSEN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act modifying the periods of time to bring certain civil  
2 actions, including by victims of sexual abuse, minors, and  
3 persons with mental illness, and including effective date  
4 provisions.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 614.1, subsection 12, Code 2018, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 12. *Sexual abuse or sexual exploitation by a counselor,*  
4 *therapist, or school employee.* An action for damages for  
5 injury suffered as a result of sexual abuse, as defined in  
6 section 709.1, by a counselor, therapist, or school employee,  
7 as defined in [section 709.15](#), or as a result of sexual  
8 exploitation by a counselor, therapist, or school employee  
9 shall be brought within ~~five~~ ten years of the date the victim  
10 was last treated by the counselor or therapist, or within  
11 ~~five~~ ten years of the date the victim was last enrolled in or  
12 attended the school.

13 Sec. 2. Section 614.8, Code 2018, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 **614.8 Minors and persons with mental illness.**

16 1. The times limited for actions in [this chapter](#), or for  
17 complaints or claims in [chapter 216](#), [669](#), or [670](#), except those  
18 brought for penalties and forfeitures, are extended in favor  
19 of persons with mental illness, so that they shall have one  
20 year from and after the termination of the disability within  
21 which to file a complaint pursuant to [chapter 216](#), to make a  
22 claim pursuant to [chapter 669](#) or [670](#), or to otherwise commence  
23 an action.

24 2. Except as provided in [section 614.1, subsection 9](#), or  
25 [section 614.8A](#), the times limited for actions in [this chapter](#),  
26 or for complaints or claims in [chapter 216](#), [669](#), or [670](#), except  
27 those brought for penalties and forfeitures, are extended in  
28 favor of minors, so that they shall have one year from and  
29 after attainment of majority within which to file a complaint  
30 pursuant to [chapter 216](#), to make a claim pursuant to [chapter](#)  
31 [669](#), or to otherwise commence an action.

32 Sec. 3. Section 614.8A, Code 2018, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 **614.8A Damages Commencement of action for minor or child**  
35 **sexual abuse — time limitation.**



1 municipality's torts and those of the municipality's officers  
2 and employees, acting within the scope of such officers'  
3 and employees' employment or duties. Under current Code  
4 section 670.5, an action for damages for an injury against a  
5 municipality cannot be brought after two years of the alleged  
6 injury, except as provided in Code section 614.8.

7 The bill amends Code section 614.8 to specify that the  
8 extension of the limitations period for persons with mental  
9 illness and for minors applies to claims brought pursuant to  
10 Code chapter 670, which chapter is already referenced at the  
11 beginning of the sentences extending the limitations period.

12 The amendment to Code section 614.8A in the bill extends  
13 the time for filing a civil action relating to sexual abuse  
14 which occurred when the injured person was a minor from one  
15 year after the attainment of majority to 25 years after the  
16 attainment of majority.

17 The amendment to Code section 614.8A in the bill also  
18 provides that a civil action for damages relating to sexual  
19 abuse which occurred when the injured party was a child shall  
20 be brought within 25 years from the time of the discovery of  
21 both the injury and the causal relationship between the injury  
22 and the sexual abuse. Current law specifies such an action  
23 shall be brought within four years from the time of discovery  
24 of both the injury and the causal relationship between the  
25 injury and the sexual abuse.

26 The bill takes effect upon enactment.