

Senate Bill 201

By: Senators Esteves of the 6th, Strickland of the 17th, Jones II of the 22nd, Parent of the 42nd, Jackson of the 41st and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to torts, so as to  
2 provide for the revival of claims for damages available to victims of human trafficking; to  
3 provide for exceptions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for  
4 other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Title 51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to torts, is amended in Code  
8 Section 51-1-56, relating to civil recovery available to victims of human trafficking, statute  
9 of limitations, and relief sought by Attorney General, by revising subsection (d) as follows:

10 "(d)(1) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, an action may be brought under  
11 subsection (b) of this Code section within ten years after the:

12 ~~(A)~~(A) Cause of action arose; or

13 ~~(B)~~(B) Victim reaches 18 years of age, if the victim was a minor at the time of the  
14 alleged violation.

15 (2) For a period of two years following July 1, 2023, any victims who were time barred  
16 from filing a civil action for damages resulting from sexual servitude due to the  
17 expiration of any statute of limitations in effect on June 30, 2023, shall be permitted to

18 file such actions against any perpetrator before July 1, 2023, thereby reviving those civil  
19 actions which had lapsed or technically expired under the law in effect on June 30, 2023.

20 (3) The revival of claims as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection shall not apply:

21 (A) To a claim that has been litigated, including all appeals, to a final order on the  
22 merits in a court of competent jurisdiction prior to July 1, 2023. Termination of a prior  
23 civil action on the basis of the expiration of the statute of limitations shall not constitute  
24 a claim that has been so litigated; or

25 (B) Where the Attorney General has reasonable cause to believe that an interest of the  
26 citizens of this state has been or is threatened or adversely affected by a perpetrator, in  
27 which event the Attorney General shall have a cause of action against such perpetrator  
28 on behalf of the state to obtain appropriate relief."

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 Said title is further amended in Code Section 51-12-33, relating to reduction and  
31 apportionment of award or bar of recovery according to percentage of fault of parties and  
32 nonparties, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

33 "(h) This Code section shall not apply to Code Section 51-1-56."

34 **SECTION 3.**

35 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.