98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

HB5512

by Rep. Elaine Nekritz

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

735 ILCS 5/13-211	from Ch. 110, par. 13-211
735 ILCS 5/13-212	from Ch. 110, par. 13-212
735 ILCS 5/13-214.3	from Ch. 110, par. 13-214.3

Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Provides that if a person is not under a legal disability at the time certain actions accrue, but becomes under a legal disability before the statutory periods of limitations for those actions otherwise run, the limitations periods are stayed until the disability is removed. Provides that the changes made by the amendatory Act apply to actions commenced or pending on or after the effective date.

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1 AN ACT concerning civil law.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Code of Civil Procedure is amended by 5 changing Sections 13-211, 13-212, and 13-214.3 as follows:

6 (735 ILCS 5/13-211) (from Ch. 110, par. 13-211)

7 Sec. 13-211. Minors and persons under legal disability. If the person entitled to bring an action, specified in Sections 8 9 13-201 through 13-210 of this Code Act, at the time the cause of action accrued, is under the age of 18 years τ or is under a 10 legal disability, then he or she may bring the action within 2 11 years after the person attains the age of 18 years, or the 12 13 disability is removed. If the person entitled to bring an 14 action specified under Sections 13-201 through 13-210 of this Code is not under a legal disability at the time the action 15 accrues, but becomes under a legal disability before the period 16 17 of limitations otherwise runs, the period of limitations is stayed until the disability is removed. The changes made to 18 19 this Section by this amendatory Act of the 98th General 20 Assembly apply to actions commenced or pending on or after the 21 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General 22 Assembly.

23 (Source: P.A. 85-18; 85-907; 86-1329.)

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(735 ILCS 5/13-212) (from Ch. 110, par. 13-212)

2 Sec. 13-212. Physician or hospital.

3 (a) Except as provided in Section 13-215 of this Act, no 4 action for damages for injury or death against any physician, 5 dentist, registered nurse or hospital duly licensed under the laws of this State, whether based upon tort, or breach of 6 7 contract, or otherwise, arising out of patient care shall be 8 brought more than 2 years after the date on which the claimant 9 knew, or through the use of reasonable diligence should have 10 known, or received notice in writing of the existence of the 11 injury or death for which damages are sought in the action, 12 whichever of such date occurs first, but in no event shall such 13 action be brought more than 4 years after the date on which 14 occurred the act or omission or occurrence alleged in such 15 action to have been the cause of such injury or death.

16 (b) Except as provided in Section 13-215 of this Act, no action for damages for injury or death against any physician, 17 dentist, registered nurse or hospital duly licensed under the 18 laws of this State, whether based upon tort, or breach of 19 contract, or otherwise, arising out of patient care shall be 20 21 brought more than 8 years after the date on which occurred the 22 act or omission or occurrence alleged in such action to have 23 been the cause of such injury or death where the person 24 entitled to bring the action was, at the time the cause of action accrued, under the age of 18 years; provided, however, 25

that in no event may the cause of action be brought after the person's 22nd birthday. If the person was under the age of 18 years when the cause of action accrued and, as a result of this amendatory Act of 1987, the action is either barred or there remains less than 3 years to bring such action, then he or she may bring the action within 3 years of July 20, 1987.

(c) If the person entitled to bring an action described in 7 8 this Section is, at the time the cause of action accrued, under 9 a legal disability other than being under the age of 18 years, 10 then the period of limitations does not begin to run until the 11 disability is removed. If the person entitled to bring an 12 action described in this Section is not under a legal 13 disability at the time the action accrues, but becomes under a 14 legal disability before the period of limitations otherwise runs, the period of limitations is stayed until the disability 15 16 is removed. The changes made to this Section by this amendatory 17 Act of the 98th General Assembly apply to actions commenced or pending on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act 18 19 of the 98th General Assembly.

20 (Source: P.A. 85-18; 85-907; 86-1329.)

21 (735 ILCS 5/13-214.3) (from Ch. 110, par. 13-214.3)

(Text of Section WITHOUT the changes made by P.A. 89-7,which has been held unconstitutional)

- 24 Sec. 13-214.3. Attorneys.
- 25 (a) In this Section: "attorney" includes (i) an individual

1 attorney, together with his or her employees who are attorneys, 2 (ii) a professional partnership of attorneys, together with its 3 employees, partners, and members who are attorneys, and (iii) a 4 professional service corporation of attorneys, together with 5 its employees, officers, and shareholders who are attorneys; 6 and "non-attorney employee" means a person who is not an 7 attorney but is employed by an attorney.

8 (b) An action for damages based on tort, contract, or 9 otherwise (i) against an attorney arising out of an act or 10 omission in the performance of professional services or (ii) 11 against a non-attorney employee arising out of an act or 12 omission in the course of his or her employment by an attorney to assist the attorney in performing professional services must 13 14 be commenced within 2 years from the time the person bringing 15 the action knew or reasonably should have known of the injury 16 for which damages are sought.

17 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), an action 18 described in subsection (b) may not be commenced in any event 19 more than 6 years after the date on which the act or omission 20 occurred.

(d) When the injury caused by the act or omission does not occur until the death of the person for whom the professional services were rendered, the action may be commenced within 2 years after the date of the person's death unless letters of office are issued or the person's will is admitted to probate within that 2 year period, in which case the action must be

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1 commenced within the time for filing claims against the estate 2 or a petition contesting the validity of the will of the 3 deceased person, whichever is later, as provided in the Probate 4 Act of 1975.

5 (e) If the person entitled to bring the action is under the age of majority or under other legal disability at the time the 6 7 cause of action accrues, the period of limitations shall not 8 begin to run until majority is attained or the disability is 9 removed. If the person entitled to bring an action described in this Section is not under a legal disability at the time the 10 11 action accrues, but becomes under a legal disability before the 12 period of limitations otherwise runs, the period of limitations 13 is stayed until the disability is removed. The changes made to 14 this Section by this amendatory Act of the 98th General 15 Assembly apply to actions commenced or pending on or after the 16 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General 17 Assembly.

(f) This Section applies to all causes of action accruingon or after its effective date.

20 (Source: P.A. 86-1371.)