

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT
House Bill No. 569 By Representative Stokes

May 28, 2014

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 569 by Representative Stokes, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

1. That the set of Amendments proposed by the Legislative Bureau and adopted by the Senate on April 24, 2014, be rejected.
2. That the engrossed bill be amended as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 4, after "judge;" and before "certain" delete "to require" and insert "to provide for the transfer of certain cases; to authorize"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 5, after "victims" and before the semi-colon ";" insert "if available"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, line 4, after "cases" delete the remainder of the line and at the beginning of line 5, delete "arraignment and, if not resolved during arraignment," and insert "where a person is charged or indicted pursuant to R.S. 14:46.2, 46.3, 81.1, 81.2, 81.3, 82, 82.1, 83, 83.1, 83.2, 83.3, 83.4, 84, 85, 86, 89, 89.1, 89.2, 104, 105, 281, or 282 shall"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, line 8, after "hearing," delete the remainder of the line and at the beginning of line 9, delete "the following if available" and insert "the following may apply"

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 2, line 10, after "victim" and before "be" change "shall" to "may"

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 2, at the beginning of line 11, delete "available" and at the end of the line, after "trafficking" and before the period "." insert "if available"

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 2, line 12, after "The" delete the remainder of the line, and insert "victim shall, with consent of the district attorney, have"

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 2, line 13, after "to" and before "non-criminal" delete "receive" and insert "be considered for a"

AMENDMENT NO. 9

On page 2, at the end of line 13, delete the period "." and insert "upon satisfactory compliance with mandated support services."

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Julie Stokes

Senator Jean-Paul J. Morrell

Representative Jeffery "Jeff" J. Arnold

Senator Sharon Weston Broome

Representative Neil C. Abramson

Senator Daniel "Danny" Martiny

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

House Bill No. 569 by Representative Stokes

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

COURTS: Relative to human trafficking courts

Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Required the victim to receive certain support services only if available.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Provides for cases in which a person is charged or indicted for offenses involving commercial sexual exploitation to be transferred to the human trafficking section of the court.
2. Authorizes the judge to require a victim to receive support services for victims of human trafficking if available.
3. Requires that the victim, with the consent of the district attorney, to be considered for a non-criminal disposition or dismissal of the case upon satisfactory compliance with mandated support services.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law authorizes the judges of any judicial district court, by majority vote of the judges sitting en banc, to designate a certain division or section of court as a specialized division or section having criminal, civil, drug court, driving while intoxicated court, mental health court, violent crimes or homicides, or other specialized subject matter jurisdiction.

Proposed law retains present law and adds human trafficking court as an authorized division or section.

Proposed law authorizes the presiding judge of the human trafficking court to be trained in issues of human trafficking and the support services available to victims.

Proposed law requires all offenses involving commercial sexual exploitation to be transferred to the human trafficking section of the court.

Proposed law provides that if it is determined by a judge, after a contradictory hearing that a case involves a victim in need of services, the following may apply:

- (1) The victim may be mandated to attend appropriate support services if available, for victims of human trafficking.
- (2) The victim shall be considered for a non-criminal disposition or dismissal of the case if the victim complies with mandated support services and the district attorney consents.

Present law prohibits the court from adopting rules that may designate any division or section, without its consent, as a specialized division or section for a longer period than three years.

Proposed law retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 13:587.4(A) and (C); Adds R.S. 13:587.4(D))