
DIGEST

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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))