

Prior law provided that any person convicted of manufacturing, distributing, or possessing with the intent to distribute certain narcotic drugs, including heroin, is to be sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor for a term of not less than five nor more than 50 years, at least five years of which must be served without benefit of probation or suspension of sentence, and may also be fined up to \$50,000.

New law increases the minimum term of imprisonment from five to 10 years except as provided in new law for heroin or of its analogues.

New law provides penalties for manufacture, distribution or possession with intent to distribute heroin, upon first conviction, of imprisonment at hard labor for not less than 10 nor more than 50 years, at least 10 years to be served without benefit of probation or suspension of sentence and may be subject to a fine of not more than \$50,000.

New law provides that as to manufacturer, distribution or possession with intent to distribute the narcotic drug heroin or a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of heroin or of its analogues, upon conviction of a second or subsequent offense requires the offender to be sentenced to a term of imprisonment at hard labor for not less than 10 nor more than 99 years, at least 10 years of which shall be served without benefit of probation or suspension of sentence, and may, in addition, be required to pay a fine of not more than \$50,000.

Effective upon signature of the governor (May 30, 2014).

(Amends R.S. 40:966(B)(1); adds R.S. 40:966(B)(4))