

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 901

BY REPRESENTATIVE MANDIE LANDRY

PARDON: Provides relative to the Crime Victims Services Bureau within the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:570(E)(1), 574(B)(2), and 574.4(B)(1), R.S. 46:1844(A)(2),
3 (N)(4), and (O)(2), and 2162(A)(1), and Children's Code Article 725.4, relative to
4 the Crime Victims Services Louisiana Victim Outreach Bureau within the
5 Department of Public Safety and Corrections; to provide for a renaming of the
6 bureau; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 15:570(E)(1), 574(B)(2), and 574.4(B)(1) are hereby amended and
9 reenacted to read as follows:

10 §570. Execution; officials and witnesses; minors excluded; time of execution; notice
11 to victim's relatives

12 * * *

13 E.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall,
14 at least ten days prior to the execution, either give written notice or verbal notice,
15 followed by written notice placed in the United States mail within five days
16 thereafter, of the date and time of execution to the victim's parents, or guardian,
17 spouse, and any adult children who have indicated to the secretary that they desire
18 such notice by registering with the ~~Crime Victims Services Bureau~~ Louisiana Victim
19 Outreach of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections. The secretary, in such
20 notice, shall give the named parties the option of attending the execution.

21 * * *

1 §574. Adoption of rules by Board of Pardons

2 * * *

3 B.

4 * * *

5 (2) The board shall not take up any consideration of an application for a
6 hearing or for a pardon, clemency, or commutation until it has made reasonable
7 efforts to contact the victim or the surviving family members of the victim, including
8 correspondence mailed at least thirty days prior to the date of the hearing to the last
9 known address of the victim or the surviving family members of the victim, and it
10 has notified the ~~Crime Victims Services Bureau~~ Louisiana Victim Outreach of the
11 Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

12 * * *

13 §574.4. Parole; eligibility; juvenile offenders

14 * * *

15 B.(1) Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, and except as
16 provided in Paragraph (A)(5) and Subsections D, E, and H of this Section, no
17 prisoner serving a life sentence shall be eligible for parole consideration until his life
18 sentence has been commuted to a fixed term of years. No prisoner sentenced as a
19 serial sexual offender shall be eligible for parole. No prisoner may be paroled while
20 there is pending against him any indictment or information for any crime suspected
21 of having been committed by him while a prisoner. Notwithstanding any other
22 provisions of law to the contrary, a person convicted of a crime of violence and not
23 otherwise ineligible for parole shall serve at least sixty-five percent of the sentence
24 imposed, before being eligible for parole. The victim or victim's family shall be
25 notified whenever the offender is to be released provided that the victim or victim's
26 family has completed a Louisiana victim notice and registration form as provided in
27 R.S. 46:1841 et seq., or has otherwise provided contact information and has indicated
28 to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, ~~Crime Victims Services Bureau~~
29 Louisiana Victim Outreach, that they desire such notification.

30 * * *

1 Section 2. R.S. 46:1844(A)(2), (N)(4), and (O)(2) and 2162(A)(1) are hereby
2 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

3 §1844. Basic rights for victim and witness

4 A.

5 * * *

6 (2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall maintain the
7 ~~Crime Victims Services Bureau~~ Louisiana Victim Outreach presently in operation.
8 The bureau shall publicize and provide a way for crime victims and their family
9 members to be kept informed about the following:

10 * * *

11 N. Duties of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

12 * * *

13 (4) When an inmate in physical custody is within three months of his earliest
14 projected release date, a registered victim may contact the ~~Crime Victims Services~~
15 ~~Bureau~~ Louisiana Victim Outreach of the Department of Public Safety and
16 Corrections, corrections services, to request a current photograph of the inmate. The
17 department shall take all reasonable steps to provide a photograph to the registered
18 victim at least ten days prior to the inmate's actual release.

19 O. Notification of pardon or parole.

20 * * *

21 (2) Beginning August 1, 2018, when an inmate in physical custody is within
22 three months of his earliest projected release date, a registered victim may contact
23 the ~~Crime Victim Services Bureau~~ Louisiana Victim Outreach to submit a reentry
24 statement to the committee on parole requesting that the inmate be subject to certain
25 proximity or contact restrictions, as part of the inmate's parole conditions, that the
26 victim believes are necessary for the victim's protection. The committee on parole
27 may consider the victim's reentry statement only for the purpose of determining the
28 inmate's parole conditions and not for the purpose of determining whether to order
29 the release of the inmate on parole. A victim's reentry statement is not binding on

1 the committee on parole, but shall be considered in concert with other relevant
2 information when setting parole conditions. The provisions of this Paragraph apply
3 only to those persons who are to appear at a hearing before the committee on parole
4 to determine whether the person should be granted parole.

5 * * *

6 §2162. Assistance to victims of human trafficking

7 A. Classification of victims of human trafficking. As soon as practicable
8 after the initial encounter with a person who reasonably appears to a law
9 enforcement agency, a district attorney's office, or the office of the attorney general
10 to be a victim of human trafficking, such agency or office shall:

11 (1) Notify the ~~Crime Victims Services Bureau~~ Louisiana Victim Outreach
12 of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections that such person may be eligible
13 for services under this Chapter.

14 * * *

15 Section 3. Children's Code Article 725.4 is hereby amended and reenacted to read
16 as follows:

17 Art. 725.4. Duties of law enforcement

18 The officer shall notify the ~~Crime Victims Services Bureau~~ Louisiana Victim
19 Outreach of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections that the child may be
20 eligible for special services and, as a mandatory reporter as required by Children's
21 Code Article 610, shall notify the Department of Children and Family Services that
22 the child is in need of protective services.

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)]

HB 901 Engrossed 2024 Regular Session Mandie Landry

Abstract: Renames the Crime Victims Services Bureau within DPS&C to the La. Victim Outreach.

Present law provides for the Crime Victims Services Bureau of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections.

Proposed law changes the name from the Crime Victims Services Bureau to the La. Victim Outreach throughout present law.

(Amends R.S. 15:570(E)(1), 574(B)(2), and 574.4(B)(1), R.S. 46:1844(A)(2), (N)(4), and (O)(2), and 2162(A)(1), and Ch.C. Art. 725.4)