

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 675 (Substitute for House Bill No. 572 by Representative Glorioso)

BY REPRESENTATIVES GLORIOSO, BACALA, CARRIER, COATES, COX, CREWS,
DICKERSON, EDMONSTON, EMERSON, FIRMENT, HORTON, MIKE
JOHNSON, MCMAKIN, SCHLEGEL, VILLIO, AND WILDER

CRIMINAL/PROCEDURE: Provides relative to post conviction relief

1 AN ACT
2 To amend and reenact Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 925, 926(B) and (E), 926.2(A)
3 and (B)(2) and (3)(introductory paragraph) and (a), 927, 930(A) and (C), 930.2,
4 930.4(article heading), (A), and (D) through (G), 930.5, 930.6(B),
5 930.8(A)(introductory paragraph) and (2) through (5) and (B) through (E) and R.S.
6 15:178, to enact Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 924(5) and (6), 926(F) and (G),
7 926.4, 927.1, 930.4(H), 930.8(F), and 930.11, and to repeal Code of Criminal
8 Procedure Articles 928, 930.6(C), 930.8(A)(6), and 930.10, relative to post
9 conviction relief; to provide for procedures; to provide for definitions; to provide for
10 appeals; to provide for applications; to provide for motions; to provide for summary
11 disposition; to provide for judgments; to provide for grounds for relief; to provide
12 relative to claims; to provide for duties of the court, district attorney, attorney
13 general, and petitioner; to provide for time periods; to provide relative to time
14 limitations; to provide for burden of proof; to provide relative to a writ of
15 mandamus; to provide for the appointment of counsel in certain circumstances; and
16 to provide for related matters.

17 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

18 Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 925, 926(B) and (E), 926.2(A) and
19 (B)(2) and (3)(introductory paragraph) and (a), 927, 930(A) and (C), 930.2, 930.4(article

heading), (A), and (D) through (G), 930.5, 930.6(B), 930.8(A)(introductory paragraph) and (2) through (5) and (B) through (E) are hereby amended and reenacted and Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 924(5) and (6), 926(F) and (G), 926.4, 927.1, 930.4(H), 930.8(F), and 930.11 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 924. Definitions

As used in this Title:

* * *

(5) "Post conviction relief" means a procedure that allows an individual who has been convicted of a crime in this state to challenge the legality of his confinement. It is a form of post conviction habeas corpus and is a collateral action to test the detention of a criminal defendant after his sentence and conviction have become final.

(6) "Shell petition" means a petition that does not contain fully briefed claims for relief.

* * *

Art. 925. Venue

~~Applications~~ Except as provided in Article 930.8(B), applications for post conviction relief shall be filed in the parish in which the petitioner was convicted.

Art. 926. Petition

* * *

B. The petition shall allege all of the following:

(1) The name of the person in custody and the place of custody, if known, or if not known, a statement to that effect;

(2) That the person is actually in custody, and the name of the place of custody, if known.

~~(2)~~ (3) The name of the custodian, if known, or if not known, a designation or description of him as far as possible;

(3) (4) A statement of the grounds upon which relief is sought, alleged in
good faith and specifying with reasonable particularity the factual basis for such
relief.

4 ~~(4)~~ (5) A statement of all prior applications for writs of habeas corpus or for
5 post conviction relief filed by or on behalf of the person in custody in connection
6 with his present custody; and;

7 ~~(5)~~ (6) All errors known or discoverable by the exercise of due diligence.

8 * *

9 E. The petition and any successive petitions shall be served upon both the
10 attorney general and the district attorney for the parish where the defendant was
11 convicted.

12 F.(1) An individual shall be eligible for post conviction relief if he meets
13 both of the following:

14 (a) He is currently serving a sentence of imprisonment or is on probation or
15 parole pursuant to a conviction.

16 (b) He is in actual custody or under supervision of the division of probation
17 and parole.

18 (2) An application for post conviction relief filed after the petitioner has
19 completed his sentence shall be dismissed.

20 (3) Any claim alleged in an application that is procedurally barred or is
21 frivolous on its face shall be dismissed.

22 E. G. Inexcusable failure of the petitioner to comply with the provisions of
23 this Article may be a basis for dismissal of his application.

24 * * *

25 Art. 926.2. Factual innocence

A. A petitioner who has been convicted of an offense may seek post conviction relief on the grounds that he is factually innocent of the offense for which he was convicted. A petitioner's first claim of factual innocence pursuant to this Article that would otherwise be barred from review on the merits by the time

1 limitation provided in Article 930.8 or the procedural objections provided in Article
2 930.4 shall not be barred if the claim is contained in an application for post
3 conviction relief filed on or before December 31, 2022, and if the petitioner was
4 convicted after a trial completed to verdict. This exception to Articles 930.4 and
5 930.8 shall apply only to the claim of factual innocence brought under this Article
6 and shall not apply to any other claims raised by the petitioner. An application for
7 post conviction relief filed pursuant to this Article by a petitioner who pled ~~guilty or~~
8 nolo contendere to the offense of conviction or filed by any petitioner after
9 December 31, 2022, shall be subject to Articles 930.4 and 930.8. A petitioner who
10 pled guilty to the offense of conviction shall not be entitled to assert a claim of
11 factual innocence in any application for post conviction relief that is filed on or after
12 August 1, 2025.

13 B.

14 * * *

15 (2) A recantation of prior sworn testimony may be considered if corroborated
16 by the evidence required by Subsubparagraph (1)(a) of this Paragraph. However, a
17 recantation of prior sworn testimony cannot form the sole basis for relief pursuant
18 to this Article, and shall not be sufficient to overcome the presumption of a valid
19 conviction.

20 (3) If the petitioner pled ~~guilty or~~ nolo contendere to the offense of
21 conviction, in addition to satisfying all of the criteria in this Paragraph and in any
22 other applicable provision of law, the petitioner shall show both of the following to
23 prove entitlement to relief:

24 (a) That, by reliable evidence, he consistently maintained his innocence until
25 his plea of ~~guilty or~~ nolo contendere.

26 * * *

1 Art. 926.4. Privilege waiver

2 By raising any claim of ineffective assistance of counsel, the defendant
3 waives the attorney-client privilege as to any information necessary to allow the state
4 to rebut the claim.

5 Art. 927. ~~Procedural~~ Action required after filing of application; procedural
6 objections; answer

7 A.(1) The court shall conduct a preliminary review of all petitions for post
8 conviction relief for compliance with the limitations for relief established in this
9 Chapter. In conducting its review of the application, the court shall consider, among
10 other things, all of the following:

11 (a) Whether the petitioner was in custody at the time the application for
12 post-conviction relief was filed.

13 (b) Whether the application is timely pursuant to Article 930.8.

14 (c) Whether the application states adequate factual or legal grounds for
15 relief.

16 (d) Whether the application states legal grounds for relief that are not
17 meritorious.

18 (e) Whether the application states factual grounds which, if established, do
19 not entitle the petitioner to relief.

20 (f) Whether the application states factual grounds that, if true, entitle the
21 petitioner to relief but are so contradicted by the court record that the court is
22 satisfied that the factual allegations are untrue.

23 (g) Whether each claim in the application is procedurally barred or frivolous
24 on its face.

25 (2) If it is evident from the petition and any attached exhibits that the
26 petitioner is not entitled to relief, the court shall dismiss the application. If the
27 application is not dismissed, the judge shall order an answer pursuant to Paragraph
28 B of this Article. The fact that the court has not dismissed the application upon
29 preliminary review shall not preclude the district attorney or the attorney general

1 from subsequently raising objections on any of the grounds listed in Subparagraph
2 (1) of this Paragraph.

3 A. ~~B.~~ If an application ~~alleges a claim which, if established, would entitle the~~
4 ~~petitioner to relief~~ is not dismissed pursuant to Paragraph A of this Article, the court
5 shall order the custodian, through the district attorney in the parish in which the
6 defendant was convicted, to file any procedural objections he may have, or an
7 answer on the merits if there are no procedural objections, within a specified period
8 not in excess of ~~thirty~~ sixty days. If any objections are waived by the district
9 attorney, the response shall be provided to the attorney general concurrent with
10 filing. The court's order shall include a copy of the application for post conviction
11 relief and the attorney general shall have thirty days to file objections. If procedural
12 objections are ~~timely~~ filed by the district attorney or the attorney general, no answer
13 on the merits of the claim nor any hearing on the merits ~~may~~ shall be ordered until
14 such objections have been considered and rulings thereon have become final.

15 ~~B.~~ C. In any order of the court requiring a response by the district attorney
16 or attorney general pursuant to this Article, the court shall render specific rulings
17 dismissing any claim which, if established as alleged, would not entitle the petitioner
18 to relief, and shall order a response only as to such claim or claims which, if
19 established as alleged, would entitle the petitioner to relief.

20 ~~C.~~ D. If the court orders an answer filed, the court need not order production
21 of the petitioner except as provided in Article 930.

22 E. Subject to the provisions of Article 930.4(F), if the application is
23 successive or supplemental to a previous application, the court shall send notice to
24 the attorney general.

25 F. If the court has determined that the application cannot be summarily
26 dismissed, the court shall determine after an answer is filed whether an evidentiary
27 hearing is necessary and shall set a status conference within sixty days.

1 Art. 927.1. Abandonment of application

2 A. After filing an application for post conviction relief, the petitioner is
3 responsible for seeking a ruling on his application and pursuing his claims. Failure
4 to actively seek a ruling on an application for post conviction relief after it has been
5 filed shall constitute abandonment of the application, resulting in the dismissal of the
6 application.

7 B. An application for post conviction relief shall be deemed to be abandoned
8 when the petitioner fails to file any pleading in furtherance of disposition of the
9 application for a period of two years following the filing of the application,
10 irrespective of the stage of the proceedings.

11 C. This Article shall be operative without a formal order when an
12 abandonment of an application pursuant to Paragraph B has occurred. On ex parte
13 motion of the district attorney or the attorney general, accompanied by an affidavit
14 that states that action has not been timely taken, the court shall enter a formal order
15 of dismissal as of the date of the application's abandonment.

16 D. If the petitioner has a shell petition pending as of July 1, 2025, he shall
17 submit a fully-briefed petition to the court within one hundred eighty days of July
18 1, 2025. Any application for post conviction relief filed before July 1, 2023, shall
19 be dismissed, set for a hearing, or otherwise adjudicated within one hundred eighty
20 days of July 1, 2025, unless the court has good cause to establish a later date,
21 provided however that the claims shall be fully adjudicated no later than July 1,
22 2026. The district attorney or the attorney general shall have a right to seek
23 mandamus to enforce this Paragraph.

24 E. For the purposes of this Article, "pleading in furtherance of disposition
25 of the application" means a filing that seeks the trial court's ruling on the merits of
26 the application or a claim asserted therein, such as a motion to set the case on the
27 docket, a motion seeking an order, or an application for writ of mandamus seeking
28 a ruling on the application.

29 * * *

Art. 930. Evidentiary hearing

A. An evidentiary hearing for the taking of testimony or other evidence shall be ordered within the time period provided in Article 930.11 whenever there are questions of fact which cannot properly be resolved pursuant to Articles 928 and 929. The petitioner, in absence of an express waiver, is entitled to be present at such hearing, unless the only evidence to be received is evidence as permitted pursuant to ~~Subsection~~ Paragraph B of this Section Article, and the petitioner has been or will be provided with copies of such evidence and an opportunity to respond thereto in writing.

* * *

C. No evidentiary hearing on the merits of a claim shall be ordered or conducted, nor shall any proffer of evidence be received over the objection of the respondent, and no ruling upon procedural objections to the petition shall purport to address the merits of the claim over the objection of the respondent, unless the court has first ruled upon all procedural objections raised by the respondent within the time period provided in Article 930.11, and such rulings have become final. Any language in a ruling on procedural objections raised by the respondent which purports to address the merits of the claim shall be deemed as null, void, and of no effect.

* * *

Art. 930.2. Burden of proof

The petitioner in an application for post conviction relief shall have the burden of proving that relief should be granted. The state has no burden of proof in a post conviction relief proceeding.

* * *

Art. 930.4. Repetitive Jurisdictional bars to relief; repetitive applications

~~A. Unless required in the interest of justice, any~~ Any claim for relief which

1 was fully litigated in an appeal from the proceedings leading to the judgment
2 of conviction and sentence shall not be considered.

3 * * *

4 D. If the application alleges a claim seeking to apply a new rule of criminal
5 procedure that has been held by the United States Supreme Court and the Louisiana
6 Supreme Court to be non-retroactive, the court shall deny relief.

7 E. A successive application shall be dismissed if it fails to raise a new or
8 different claim.

9 ~~E.~~ F. A successive application shall be dismissed if it raises a new or
10 different claim that was inexcusably omitted from a prior application.

11 ~~F.~~ G. Any attempt or request by a petitioner to supplement or amend the
12 application shall be subject to all of the limitations and restrictions set forth in this
13 Article. In addition to serving the district attorney for the jurisdiction where the
14 underlying conviction was obtained, any subsequent, successive, amending, or
15 supplemental application ~~filed after the first application for post conviction relief~~
16 shall be served by the petitioner on the district attorney and the attorney general. If
17 the court subsequently orders any hearing on the application, the court shall send
18 notice to the district attorney and attorney general at least sixty days in advance of
19 the hearing ~~on the application. Both the district attorney and the attorney general~~
20 ~~shall have a right to suspensively appeal any order granting relief~~ date.

21 ~~G.~~ H. ~~All of the~~ The limitations set forth in this Article shall be jurisdictional
22 and shall not be waived or excused by the court or the district attorney.

23 Art. 930.5. Custody pending retrial; bail

24 A. If a court grants relief under an application for post conviction relief, the
25 court shall order that the petitioner be held in custody pending a new trial ~~if it~~
26 ~~appears that there are legally sufficient grounds upon which to reprosecute the~~
27 ~~petitioner.~~

28 B. In such a case, the petitioner shall be entitled to bail on the offense as
29 though he has not been convicted of the offense.

1 Art. 930.6. Review of trial court judgments

2 * * *

3 B. ~~If a statute or ordinance is declared unconstitutional, the state may appeal~~
4 ~~to the supreme court. If relief is granted on any other ground, the state may invoke~~
5 ~~the supervisory jurisdiction of the court of appeal.~~

6 C. ~~Pending the state's application for writs, or pending the state's appeal, the~~
7 ~~district court or the court of appeal may stay the judgment granting relief. The~~
8 ~~district attorney and the attorney general shall have a right to suspensively appeal~~
9 ~~any order granting post conviction relief.~~

10 * * *

11 Art. 930.8. Time limitations; exceptions; prejudicial delay

12 A. No application for post conviction relief, including applications which
13 seek an out-of-time appeal, shall be considered if it is filed more than ~~two years~~ one
14 year after the judgment of conviction and sentence has become final under the
15 provisions of Article 914 or 922, unless any of the following apply:

16 * * *

17 (2) Facts that were known to any attorney for the petitioner shall be
18 presumed to have been known by the petitioner unless the petitioner rebuts this
19 presumption by clear and convincing evidence. Facts that were contained in the
20 record of the court proceedings concerning the conviction challenged in the
21 application shall be deemed to have been known by the petitioner. The provisions of
22 this Subparagraph are applicable if the petitioner proves either of the following:

23 (a) That the petitioner exercised due diligence in attempting to discover any
24 post conviction claims or facts upon which any claims may be based.

25 (b)(i) That exceptional circumstances exist, the interest of justice will be
26 served by consideration of the claim based upon the previously unknown facts, and
27 the newly discovered facts in support of the claim are sufficiently compelling that
28 manifest injustice will result if the claim is not considered.

1 (ii) The petitioner shall have the burden of proving the provisions of this
2 Subsubparagraph by clear and convincing evidence.

3 (2) (3) The claim asserted in the petition is based upon a final ruling of an
4 appellate court establishing a theretofore unknown interpretation of constitutional
5 law and petitioner establishes that this interpretation is retroactively applicable to his
6 case, and the petition is filed within one year of the finality of such ruling.

7 ~~(3) The application would already be barred by the provisions of this Article,~~
8 ~~but the application is filed on or before October 1, 2001, and the date on which the~~
9 ~~application was filed is within three years after the judgment of conviction and~~
10 ~~sentence has become final.~~

11 ~~(4) The person asserting the claim has been sentenced to death.~~

12 (5) (4) The petitioner qualifies for the exception to timeliness in Article
13 926.1.

14 (6) (5) The petitioner qualifies for the exception to timeliness in Article
15 926.2.

16 B.(1) When the petitioner has been sentenced to death, all appellate review
17 of post-conviction relief applications, including supervisory review of
18 post-conviction relief applications, shall be filed directly with the Louisiana Supreme
19 Court.

20 (2) When an execution warrant has been issued, any application for
21 post-conviction relief that contains a new claim, pleading, or other legal matter shall
22 be filed no later than forty-five days prior to the execution date of the petitioner. A
23 ruling on such application shall be issued no later than twenty-one days prior to the
24 execution date of the petitioner. The exclusive means of review shall be a writ
25 application filed directly with the Louisiana Supreme Court within seven days of the
26 ruling on the application.

27 B. C. An application for post conviction relief which is timely filed, or which
28 is allowed under an exception to the time limitation as set forth in Paragraph A of
29 this Article, shall be dismissed upon a showing by the state of prejudice to its ability

1 to respond to, negate, or rebut the allegations of the petition caused by events not
2 under the control of the state which have transpired since the date of original
3 conviction, if the court finds, after a hearing limited to that issue, that the state's
4 ability to respond to, negate, or rebut such allegations has been materially prejudiced
5 thereby. Failure of the petitioner after the filing of an application to either timely
6 seek a hearing that is allowed by law or to timely pursue claims shall be presumed
7 prejudicial if the delay caused by the inaction exceeds two years. The petitioner
8 shall bear the burden of rebutting the presumption of prejudice. A final judgment
9 dismissing an application based upon prejudice shall be a final adjudication of state
10 post conviction claims in the application for purposes of exhaustion of state court
11 remedies and federal habeas corpus proceedings.

12 ~~E. D.~~ At the time of sentencing, the trial court shall inform the defendant of
13 the prescriptive period for post-conviction relief either verbally or in writing. If a
14 written waiver of rights form is used during the acceptance of a guilty plea, the
15 notice required by this Paragraph may be included in the written waiver of rights.

16 ~~D. E.~~ Any attempt or request by a petitioner to supplement or amend the
17 application shall be subject to all of the limitations and restrictions as set forth in this
18 Article. Any attempt to reconsider or vacate a conviction or sentence that falls
19 outside the time limits of Article 882 shall be treated as an application for post
20 conviction relief. If post conviction relief has already been sought, any such claim
21 shall be treated as a repetitive petition for post conviction relief that is subject to all
22 the limitations and restrictions set forth in this Article.

23 ~~E. F.~~ All of the limitations set forth in this Article shall be jurisdictional and
24 shall not be waived or excused by the court or the district attorney.

25 * * *

26 Art. 930.11. Time delays applicable to this Title; writ of mandamus

27 A. The court of appropriate jurisdiction shall adhere to the following time
28 periods in post conviction proceedings:

1 (1) The court shall conduct the preliminary review provided in Article 927
2 within thirty days of the filing of application.

3 (2) When ruling on procedural objections that have been filed pursuant to
4 Article 927, the court shall issue its ruling within thirty days of receipt of such
5 objections.

6 (3) If the court determines that no evidentiary hearing is necessary, it shall
7 issue its ruling on the merits of any remaining claim alleged in the application within
8 thirty days of the state's answer on the merits.

9 (4) When the court determines that there are questions of fact which cannot
10 properly be resolved pursuant to Article 929, it shall conduct an evidentiary hearing
11 provided in Article 930 within one hundred eighty days of such determination and
12 issue a ruling on the merits of any remaining claim within thirty days following the
13 conclusion of such hearing.

14 B. The district attorney and the attorney general shall adhere to the following
15 time periods in post conviction proceedings:

16 (1) The district attorney shall have sixty days to file procedural objections
17 pursuant to Article 927, unless he waives such objections.

18 (2) If an answer is required, the district attorney shall have sixty days from
19 the court's ruling on procedural objections to file an answer on the merits pursuant
20 to Article 927.

21 (3) The attorney general shall have thirty days to file procedural objections
22 pursuant to Article 927 if the district attorney waives such objections.

23 C. A petitioner who has been sentenced to death shall only seek supervisory
24 review directly from the Louisiana Supreme Court.

25 D. If a petitioner invokes the supervisory jurisdiction of the Louisiana
26 Supreme Court, the supreme court shall rule on an application for a writ of review
27 within one hundred eighty days of receipt. If there is an active death warrant, the
28 court shall issue a ruling prior to the effective date of that warrant.

1 E. The state or petitioner shall have the right to seek a writ of mandamus to
2 compel a court to issue a requested ruling within a specified period not to exceed
3 thirty days if that court has not issued a ruling within the deadlines provided in this
4 Chapter.

5 Section 2. R.S. 15:178 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §178. Appointment of appellate and post-conviction counsel in death penalty case

7 In a capital case in which the trial counsel was provided to an indigent
8 defendant and in which the jury imposed the death penalty, the court, after within
9 thirty days of the imposition of the sentence of death, shall ~~appoint~~ order the office;
10 ~~which shall promptly cause~~ of the state public defender to have enrolled ~~counsel to~~
11 ~~represent the defendant on~~ at least one attorney for direct appeal and ~~in any~~ at least
12 one separate attorney for state ~~post-conviction~~ post conviction proceedings, ~~if~~
13 appropriate.

14 Section 3. Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 928, 930.6(C), 930.8(A)(6), and
15 930.10 are hereby repealed in their entirety.

16 Section 4. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to
17 renumber the subparagraphs of Code of Criminal Procedure Article 924 so as to properly
18 place Code of Criminal Procedure Article 924(5) and (6) as enacted by this Act.

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 675 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Glorioso

Abstract: Provides relative to post conviction relief procedures.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 924) provides for definitions.

Proposed law retains present law and defines the terms "post conviction relief" and "shell petition".

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 925) provides that applications for post conviction relief shall be filed in the parish in which the petitioner was convicted.

Proposed law retains present law and provides an exception for certain petitioners.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 926) provides relative to petitions for post conviction relief.

Proposed law retains present law generally.

Proposed law provides that one of the items a petition is required to allege is that the person is actually in custody, and the name of the place of custody, if known. Further provides that a statement of the grounds upon which relief is sought shall be alleged in good faith.

Proposed law provides that the petition and any successive petitions shall be served upon both the attorney general and the district attorney for the parish where the defendant was convicted.

Proposed law provides that an individual shall be eligible for post conviction relief if he meets both of the following:

- (1) He is currently serving a sentence of imprisonment or is on probation or parole pursuant to a conviction.
- (2) He is in actual custody or under supervision of the division of probation and parole.

Proposed law provides that any claim alleged in an application that is procedurally barred or is frivolous on its face shall be dismissed.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 926.2) provides relative to post conviction relief on the grounds that the petitioner is factually innocent of the offense for which he was convicted.

Proposed law retains present law generally.

Present law provides that an application for post conviction relief filed pursuant to present law by a petitioner who pled guilty or nolo contendere to the offense of conviction or filed by any petitioner after Dec. 31, 2022, shall be subject to present law.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that a petitioner who pled guilty to the offense of conviction shall not be entitled to assert a claim of factual innocence in any application for post conviction relief that is filed on or after Aug. 1, 2025.

Present law provides that a recantation of prior sworn testimony may be considered if corroborated by the evidence. Further provides that a recantation of prior sworn testimony cannot form the sole basis for relief pursuant to present law.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that a recantation shall not be sufficient to overcome the presumption of a valid conviction.

Proposed law (C.Cr.P. Art. 926.4) provides that by raising any claim of ineffective assistance of counsel, the defendant waives the attorney-client privilege as to any information necessary to allow the state to rebut the claim.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 927) provides for the filing of procedural objections in response to an application for post conviction relief.

Proposed law retains present law generally.

Proposed law provides that the court shall conduct a preliminary review of all petitions for post conviction relief for compliance with the limitations for relief established in proposed law. Further provides for factors that the court is required to consider, among other things, in its review of the application.

Proposed law provides for the dismissal of application and duties of court.

Present law provides for procedures when an application is not dismissed.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that the district attorney may file procedural objections or an answer on the merits within 60 days, rather than 30 days.

Proposed law provides for service of the response to the attorney general if any objections are waived by the district attorney. Further provides that the attorney general shall have 30 days to file objections.

Proposed law provides that no hearing on the merits shall be ordered if procedural objections are filed by the district attorney or the attorney general.

Proposed law provides for notice to the attorney general if certain applications are filed and procedures for applications that cannot be summarily dismissed.

Proposed law (C.Cr.P. Art. 927.1) provides for duties of the petitioner regarding the abandonment of an application and what constitutes abandonment of an application. Further defines the term "pleading in furtherance of disposition of the application".

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 928) provides that an application for post conviction relief may be dismissed without an answer if the application fails to allege a claim which, if established, would entitle the petitioner to relief.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930) provides for evidentiary hearings.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the evidentiary hearing shall be ordered within the time period provided in proposed law.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.2) provides that the petitioner in an application for post conviction relief shall have the burden of proving that relief should be granted.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the state has no burden of proof in a post conviction relief proceeding.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.4) provides relative to repetitive applications for post conviction relief.

Proposed law retains present law generally.

Proposed law provides that if a repetitive application alleges a claim seeking to apply a new rule of criminal procedure that has been held by the U.S. Supreme Court and the La. Supreme Court to be non-retroactive, the court shall deny relief.

Proposed law provides for procedures relative to service and notice when a petitioner attempts or requests to amend an application for post conviction relief.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.5) provides that if a court grants relief under an application for post conviction relief, the court shall order that the petitioner be held in custody pending a new trial if it appears that there are legally sufficient grounds upon which to re prosecute the petitioner.

Proposed law amends present law to remove the reference to legally sufficient grounds for re prosecution.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.6) provides for a review of trial court judgments.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law further permits the state to appeal to the supreme court or court of appeal under circumstances and permits the district court or court of appeal to stay a judgment granting relief when a an application for writ or appeal is pending.

Proposed law removes these provisions and provides that the district attorney and the attorney general shall have a right to suspensively appeal any order granting post conviction relief.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.8) provides for time limitations and exceptions pertaining to applications post conviction.

Proposed law retains present law generally.

Proposed law removes the following from the time limitation exceptions for the filing of a post conviction relief application:

- (1) An application that would already be barred by present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.8), but the application is filed on or before Oct. 1, 2001, and the date on which the application was filed is within three years after the judgment of conviction and sentence has become final.
- (2) The person asserting the claim has been sentenced to death.

Proposed law provides that when the petitioner has been sentenced to death, all appellate review of post-conviction relief applications, including supervisory review of post-conviction relief applications, shall be filed directly with the La. Supreme Court.

Proposed law provides that when an execution warrant has been issued, any application for post-conviction relief that contains a new claim, pleading, or other legal matter shall be filed no later than 45 days prior to the execution date of the petitioner. Further provides a ruling on such applications shall be issued no later than 21 days prior to the execution date of the petitioner and that the exclusive means of review shall be a writ application filed directly with the La. Supreme Court within seven days of the ruling on the application.

Proposed law provides for the dismissal of an application based upon prejudice, what constitutes dismissal, the burden of the petitioner, and the effect of a final judgment of dismissal.

Proposed law provides that any attempt to reconsider or vacate a conviction or sentence that falls outside the time limits of present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 882) shall be treated as an application for post conviction relief. Further provides for if post conviction relief has already been sought, any such claim shall be treated as a repetitive petition and subject to all the limitations and restrictions set forth in proposed law.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.10) provides for post conviction plea agreements between the district attorney and the approval, with the approval of the district court.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.11) provides for time periods that courts of appropriate jurisdiction, the district attorney, and the attorney general are to adhere to in post conviction proceedings. Further provides for the right to seek a writ of mandamus to compel a court to issue a requested ruling within a specified time period.

Present law (R.S. 15:578) provides for the enrollment of counsel by the office of the state public defender to represent a defendant on direct appeal and in any state post conviction proceedings in a capital case in which the jury imposed the death penalty.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that the court shall, within 30 days of the imposition of the sentence of death, order the office of the state public defender to have enrolled at least one attorney for direct appeal and at least one separate attorney for state post conviction proceedings.

Proposed law directs the La. State Law Institute to renumber the provisions of present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 924) so as to properly place proposed law (C.Cr.P. Art. 924(5) and (6)).

(Amends C. Cr. P. Arts. 925, 926(B) and (E), 926.2(A) and (B)(2) and (3)(intro. para.) and (a), 927, 930(A) and (C), 930.2, 930.4(art. heading), (A), and (D)-(G), 930.5, 930.6(B), 930.8(A)(intro. para.) and (2)-(5) and (B)-(E) and R.S. 15:178; Adds C.Cr.P. Arts. 924(5) and (6), 926(F) and (G), 926.4, 927.1, 930.4(H), 930.8(F), and 930.11; Repeals C.Cr.P. Arts. 928, 930.6(C), 930.8(A)(6), and 930.10)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Restore present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 882(A)) provisions relative to correction of illegal sentence.
3. Clarify that a petitioner who pleads guilty to an offense shall not be entitled to assert a claim of factual innocence in any application for post conviction relief that is filed on or after Aug. 1, 2025.
4. Make mandatory, rather than permissive, the ordering of any answer on the merits of the claim or any hearing on the merits until procedural objections have been considered and rulings thereon have become final.
5. Clarify when an application for post conviction relief is deemed abandoned.
6. Clarify that the limitations under proposed law relative to abandonment do not preclude the filing of an application that meets an exception to the time limitations provided in present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.8).
7. Provide that claims contained in any application for post conviction relief that is filed before July 1, 2023, shall be fully adjudicated no later than July 1, 2026, rather than one year from the date of filing or amendment.
8. Provide for a time period of 45 days to file an application for post conviction relief when an execution warrant has been issued and provide for other procedures relative to the filing of such applications.
9. Clarify when an application for post conviction relief after the issuance of execution warrant shall be adjudicated and the exclusive means of reviewing such applications.
10. Clarify what constitutes prejudicial conduct relative to an application for post conviction relief that is either timely filed or filed pursuant to present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 930.8).
11. Relative to the exhaustion of state court remedies and federal habeas corpus proceedings, clarify that a final judgment dismissing an application based upon prejudice shall be a final adjudication of state post conviction claims in the application, rather than post conviction relief.

12. Relative to supervisory review, remove provisions of proposed law relative to supervisory jurisdiction of appellate courts and requires a petitioner who has been sentenced to death to seek supervisory review directly from the La. Supreme Court.
13. Require the La. Supreme Court, when its supervisory jurisdiction is invoked and the petitioner has an active death warrant, to issue a ruling prior to the effective date of that warrant.