

## 2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 85

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM

**CRIME/FELONIES:** Creates a statewide registry for individuals convicted of certain felony offenses involving animals

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 3-H of Title 15 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised  
3 of R.S. 15:564 through 564.2, relative to reporting requirements of persons convicted  
4 of certain felony offenses against animals; to provide for registration; to provide  
5 relative to the duty of offenders to notify law enforcement; to provide relative to the  
6 failure to register; to provide relative to the duration of registration requirements; and  
7 to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9           Section 1. Chapter 3-H of Title 15 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,  
10          comprised of R.S. 15:564 through 564.2, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

## CHAPTER 3-H. ANIMAL ABUSE AND NEGLECT REGISTRY

12                   §564. Registration of persons convicted of felony offenses involving the abuse,  
13                   cruelty, or death of an animal

14                   A. Any person residing in this state who has been convicted of the  
15                   commission or conspiracy to commit, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to the  
16                   commission or conspiracy to commit, any of the following felony offenses shall be  
17                   required to register and provide notification in accordance with the provisions of this  
18                   Chapter:

19 (1) R.S. 14:89.3 (Sexual abuse of an animal)

20 (2) R.S. 14:89.6 (Human-animal hybrids)



1 affidavit shall certify that the affiant understands his obligation to provide written  
2 notice in the same manner as provided in R.S. 15:542.1.4(B) to the appropriate law  
3 enforcement agency with whom the offender last registered when the offender no  
4 longer resides at the residence provided in the affidavit.

5 (f) The crime for which the offender was convicted and the date and place  
6 of such conviction, and if known by the offender, the court in which the conviction  
7 was obtained, the docket number of the case, the specific statute under which he was  
8 convicted, and the sentence imposed.

9 (g) A current photograph of the offender.

10 (h) The offender's telephone numbers, including fixed location phone and  
11 mobile phone numbers assigned to the offender or associated with any residence  
12 address of the offender.

13 (i) A description of every motorized vehicle registered to or operated by the  
14 offender, including license plate number and vehicle identification number, and a  
15 copy of the offender's driver's license or identification card. This information shall  
16 be provided prior to the offender's operation of the vehicle.

17 (j) The offender's social security number and date of birth.

18 (k) A description of the physical characteristics of the offender, including but  
19 not limited to sex, race, hair color, eye color, height, age, weight, scars, tattoos, or  
20 other identifying marks on the body of the offender.

21 (l) Every email address of the offender.

22 (2)(a)(i) Failure to register as required in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection  
23 constitutes a violation of this Chapter.

24 (ii) Knowingly providing false information to any law enforcement officer,  
25 office, or agency required to receive registration information pursuant to the  
26 provisions of this Chapter constitutes a failure to register.

27 (b) Upon conviction, the offender shall be fined not more than one thousand  
28 dollars and imprisoned for not more than one year with or without hard labor.

1           D. Upon receipt of the registration information as prescribed by the  
2           provisions of this Section, the law enforcement agency shall, by electronic means,  
3           immediately forward the offender's information to the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal  
4           Identification and Information.

5           E. The offender's registration and notification requirements pursuant to this  
6           Chapter are mandatory and shall not be waived or suspended by any court. Any  
7           order waiving or suspending offender registration and notification requirements shall  
8           be null, void, and of no effect. Any order waiving or suspending registration and  
9           notification requirements shall not be construed to invalidate an otherwise valid  
10           conviction, unless by joint written motion of the district attorney and the offender.

11           §564.1. Duties of the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information

12           A.(1) The Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information shall  
13           develop and maintain the central registry known as the Animal Abuse and Neglect  
14           Registry. The registry shall contain the information transmitted to the bureau  
15           pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter. Upon receipt of the registration and  
16           information of any person subject to the provisions of this Chapter, the bureau shall  
17           immediately enter the appropriate information in the public registry. The bureau  
18           shall accept electronically submitted information and registration renewal  
19           information that is received from law enforcement.

20           (2)(a) The bureau shall provide for public access to the information  
21           contained in the registry, including internet-based access, which shall have field-  
22           search capabilities.

23           (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph,  
24           the following information is exempt from public access:

25           (i) Social security numbers.

26           (ii) Telephone numbers, subject to the provisions of Subparagraphs (c) and  
27           (d) of this Paragraph.

28           (iii) Email addresses.



1           B. The bureau shall develop and maintain the registry as to provide for  
2           automatic email notifications at the time when an offender begins residence,  
3           employment, or school attendance within a certain geographic radius or zip code.  
4           This function of the registry shall allow members of the public and organizations to  
5           request automatic email notifications to be sent to an email address provided by the  
6           requestor for a certain geographic radius or zip code specified by the requestor.

7           C. The bureau is hereby designated as the state agency to receive information  
8           regarding an out-of-state person who establishes a residence in this state pursuant to  
9           R.S. 15:542.1.3 and has been convicted of a similar offense as those that require  
10           registration pursuant to R.S. 15:564(A).

11           D. The bureau may promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the  
12           Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this Chapter.

13           E.(1) The bureau shall provide the capability for a social networking website  
14           to compare the database of registered users of that social networking website to the  
15           list of email addresses, instant message addresses, and other similar online identifiers  
16           of persons in the Animal Abuse and Neglect Registry.

17           (2) An entity operating a social networking website that compares its  
18           database of registered users to the list of email addresses, instant message addresses,  
19           and other online identifiers of persons in the registry shall first provide to the bureau  
20           all of the following information:

21           (a) The name, address, and telephone number of the entity operating the  
22           social networking website.

23           (b) The legal nature and corporate status of the entity operating the social  
24           networking website.

25           (c) A statement signed by the chief legal officer of the social networking  
26           website to the effect that the information obtained from the registry shall not be  
27           disclosed for any purpose other than for comparing the database of registered users  
28           of the social networking website against the list of email addresses, instant message  
29           addresses, and other online identifiers of persons contained in the state registry to

1       protect animals from abuse or neglect, and that disclosure of this information for any  
2       other purpose may be unlawful.

3       (d) The name, address, and telephone number of a natural person who is  
4       authorized to receive service of process for the entity operating the social networking  
5       website.

6       (3) After complying with the requirements of Paragraph (2) of this  
7       Subsection, the entity operating the social networking website may screen users or  
8       compare its database of registered users to the list of email addresses, instant  
9       message addresses, and other online identifiers of persons contained in the Animal  
10       Abuse or Neglect Registry as frequently as the bureau allows for the purpose of  
11       identifying, monitoring, or removing a registered user associated with electronic mail  
12       addresses, instant message addresses, and other online identifiers contained in the  
13       registry.

14       (4) An entity operating a social networking website which complies with the  
15       provisions of Paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Subsection and its directors, officers,  
16       employees, or agents may claim such compliance as a defense to a claim for liability  
17       arising against the entity or those persons.

18       §564.2. Duration of registration and notification period

19       A person required to register pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter shall  
20       comply with this requirement and keep current his registration information for one  
21       year from the date of initial registration in this state for a first offense and ten years  
22       for a second or subsequent offense, unless the underlying conviction is reversed, set  
23       aside, or vacated.

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## 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)]

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HB 85 Original

2026 Regular Session

Bayham

**Abstract:** Requires a person who is convicted of certain felony offenses involving animals to register with local law enforcement agencies.

Proposed law creates the Animal Abuse and Neglect Registry and requires the registration of any person residing in this state who has been convicted of the commission or conspiracy to commit, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to the commission or conspiracy to commit any of the following felony offenses:

- (1) R.S. 14:89.3 (Sexual abuse of an animal)
- (2) R.S. 14:89.6 (Human-animal hybrids)
- (3) R.S. 14:102.1 (Cruelty to animals; simple and aggravated)
- (4) R.S. 14:102.5 (Dogfighting; training and possession of dogs for fighting)
- (5) R.S. 14:102.8 (Injuring or killing of a police animal)
- (6) R.S. 14:102.23 (Cockfighting)

Proposed law requires the court to provide written notification to the offender of his obligation to register upon release, or as a condition of his probation or parole.

Proposed law requires the offender to register with the appropriate law enforcement agency and provides for the information required for registration.

Proposed law provides that an offender who fails to register shall be fined not more than \$1,000 and imprisoned for not more than one year with or without hard labor.

Proposed law requires the appropriate law enforcement agency to immediately forward the offender's information electronically to the La. Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information.

Proposed law provides that the offender registration and notification requirements required by proposed law are mandatory and shall not be waived or suspended by any court. Further provides that any order waiving or suspending registration and notification requirements shall not be construed to invalidate an otherwise valid conviction, unless by joint written motion of the district attorney and the offender.

Proposed law provides for the duties of the La. Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information as follows:

- (1) Maintaining the central registry known as the Animal Abuse and Neglect Registry and entering the appropriate information in the registry.

- (2) Providing public access to the information contained in the registry, including internet-based access, with field-search capabilities and exemptions for particular information.
- (3) Providing for automatic email notifications at the time when an offender begins residence, employment, or school attendance within a certain geographic radius or zip code.
- (4) Receiving information regarding an out-of-state person convicted of a similar offense as those provided in proposed law who establishes a residence in this state pursuant to present law (R.S. 15:542.1.3).
- (5) Promulgating rules and regulations in accordance with the APA to implement the provisions of proposed law.
- (6) Providing a social networking website with the capability of comparing its database of registered users to the list of email addresses, instant message addresses, and other similar online identifiers of persons in the registry.

Proposed law provides for the following registration periods:

- (1) One year from the date of initial registration for a first offense.
- (2) 10 years for a second or subsequent offense.

Proposed law provides an exception to these registration periods if the underlying conviction is reversed, set aside, or vacated.

(Adds R.S. 15:564-564.2)