
DIGEST

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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)