

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 426

BY REPRESENTATIVE PHELPS

CRIME: Provides relative to criminal blighting of property

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:107.3(B), relative to criminal blighting; to provide relative
3 to culpability; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 14:107.3(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §107.3. Criminal blighting of property

7 * * *

8 B. Criminal blighting of property is the intentional or criminally negligent
9 permitting of the existence of a condition of deterioration of property by the property
10 owner, a representative or agent of the property owner, or anyone with custody,
11 control, or ownership of the property, ~~which that~~ is deemed to have occurred when
12 the property has been declared or certified as blighted or a public nuisance by an
13 administrative hearing officer acting pursuant to R.S. 13:2575 or 2576, or any other
14 applicable law.

15 * * *

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 426 Original

2026 Regular Session

Phelps

Abstract: Provides relative to criminal blighting of property and adds other responsible persons who may be subject to prosecution.

Present law provides for the crime of criminal blighting of property.

Proposed law generally retains present law.

Present law provides that criminal blighting of property is the intentional or criminally negligent permitting of the existence of a condition of deterioration of property by the owner, which is deemed to have occurred when the property has been declared or certified as blighted after an administrative hearing pursuant to present law (R.S. 13:2575 or 2576).

Proposed law amends present law to include a representative or agent of the property owner or anyone with custody, control, or ownership of the property as individuals who may be subject to prosecution for criminal blighting.

(Amends R.S. 14:107.3(B))