
DIGEST

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HB 429 Original

2026 Regular Session

Jacob Landry

Abstract: Adds theft or unauthorized entry of critical infrastructure as predicate crimes for terrorism and adds oil and natural gas operations to the definition of critical infrastructure.

Present law provides for the crimes of unauthorized entry of a critical infrastructure (R.S. 14:61) and theft of critical infrastructure (R.S. 14:67.24).

Present law (R.S. 14:67.24) provides penalties for theft of critical infrastructure as follows:

- (1) When the value of the stolen property is less than \$25,000, a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than 15 years, or both.
- (2) When the value of the stolen property is \$25,000 or more, a fine of not more than \$50,000 or imprisonment at hard labor for not more than 20 years, or both.
- (3) When it is foreseeable that human life will be threatened as a result of the theft, a fine of not more than \$50,000 or imprisonment at hard labor for not more than 20 years, or both.

Proposed law revises the penalty provisions so that all convictions for theft of critical infrastructure carry a fine of not more than \$50,000 or imprisonment at hard labor for not more than 20 years, or both.

Present law provides for crimes which, when committed with the intent to intimidate or coerce the civilian population or influence a government entity by intimidation or coercion, qualify as terrorism.

Proposed law adds oil and natural gas drilling operations and equipment to the definition of critical infrastructure.

Proposed law adds unauthorized entry of critical infrastructure and theft of critical infrastructure as crimes which, with the requisite intent, qualify as terrorism.

Proposed law requires any person who commits terrorism by theft or unauthorized entry of a critical infrastructure to be imprisoned at hard labor for not less than 20 years.

(Amends R.S. 14:61(B)(intro. para.) and 67.24(C); Adds R.S. 14:61(B)(1)(c) and 128.1(A)(6) and (B)(6))