

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 480

BY REPRESENTATIVE LAFLEUR

COURTS/CRIMINAL: Provides for participation in reentry courts

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(e) through (g) and to repeal R.S.  
3 13:5401(B)(1)(h) and (i), relative to reentry courts; to provide for participation in  
4 workforce development sentencing programs; to provide for eligibility; to provide  
5 relative to certain exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(e) through (g) are hereby amended and reenacted to  
8 read as follows:

9 §5401. District courts; reentry courts; subject matter

10 \* \* \*

11 B. Participation in the workforce development sentencing program as  
12 authorized by the provisions of this Section shall be subject to the following  
13 provisions:

14 (1) The court may recommend that a defendant participate in the workforce  
15 development sentencing program if all of the following criteria are satisfied:

16 \* \* \*

17 ~~(e) The defendant shall not have any prior felony convictions for any~~  
18 ~~offenses defined as a sex offense in R.S. 15:541.~~

19 ~~(f) The crime before the court shall not be a crime of violence as defined in~~  
20 ~~R.S. 14:2(B), including domestic violence; however, the provisions of this~~  
21 ~~Subparagraph shall not apply to any of the following crimes of violence:~~

- 1           ~~(i) Aggravated battery (R.S. 14:34).~~
- 2           ~~(ii) Second degree battery (R.S. 14:34.1).~~
- 3           ~~(iii) Battery of a police officer (R.S. 14:34.2).~~
- 4           ~~(iv) Disarming of a peace officer (R.S. 14:34.6).~~
- 5           ~~(v) Aggravated assault (R.S. 14:37).~~
- 6           ~~(vi) Aggravated assault with a firearm (R.S. 14:37.4).~~
- 7           ~~(vii) Simple kidnapping (R.S. 14:45).~~
- 8           ~~(viii) False imprisonment; offender armed with dangerous weapon (R.S.~~
- 9           ~~14:46.1).~~
- 10           ~~(ix) Aggravated arson (R.S. 14:51).~~
- 11           ~~(x) Aggravated criminal damage to property (R.S. 14:55).~~
- 12           ~~(xi) Home invasion (R.S. 14:62.8).~~
- 13           ~~(xii) Second degree robbery (R.S. 14:64.4).~~
- 14           ~~(xiii) Simple robbery (R.S. 14:65).~~
- 15           ~~(xiv) Purse snatching (R.S. 14:65.1).~~
- 16           ~~(xv) Aggravated flight from an officer (R.S. 14:108.1).~~
- 17           (e) The crime before the court shall not be a sex offense as defined in R.S.
- 18           15:541 or any criminal offense that resulted in a death.
- 19           ~~(g) (f) Other criminal proceedings alleging commission of a crime of~~
- 20           ~~violence as defined in R.S. 14:2(B), except those listed in, sex offense as defined in~~
- 21           R.S. 15:541 or any criminal offense in which a death occurred shall not be pending
- 22           against the defendant.
- 23           ~~(h) The crime before the court shall not be a charge of any crime that~~
- 24           ~~resulted in the death of a person.~~
- 25           ~~(i) (g) The district attorney or appropriate prosecuting authority of the charge~~
- 26           for which a defendant may be considered for ~~re-entry~~ reentry court consents to
- 27           participation by the defendant in all cases wherein the defendant is convicted of an
- 28           eligible violent crime pursuant to R.S. 14:2.
- 29           Section 2. R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(h) and (i) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

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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 480 Original

2026 Regular Session

LaFleur

**Abstract:** Removes certain crimes of violence as disqualifying crimes for reentry courts and participation in workforce development programs.

Present law provides for the subject matter of reentry courts.

Present law provides for workforce development programs available to offenders sentenced by reentry courts.

Present law provides that for an offender to participate in a workforce development program, the offender shall not have previous convictions for a sex offense and the crime before the court shall not be a crime of violence, with exceptions for certain crimes of violence.

Proposed law removes the provision disqualifying offenders with previous convictions for sex offenses.

Proposed law provides that for an offender to participate in a workforce development program, the crime before the court shall not be a sex offense or a crime in which a death occurred.

Present law provides that the offender shall not have other pending criminal proceedings alleging a crime of violence, with exceptions.

Proposed law provides that the offender shall not have other pending criminal proceedings alleging a sex crime or a crime in which a death occurred.

(Amends R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(e)-(g); Repeals R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(h) and (i))