
DIGEST

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HB 684 Original

2026 Regular Session

Mena

Abstract: Creates a diversion program for juveniles stopped or detained for misdemeanor offenses.

Proposed law may be referred to and cited as the "Youth Contact Reduction and Diversion Act".

Proposed law defines the terms "juvenile" and "pre-arrest diversion program".

Proposed law requires a peace officer to issue a juvenile a civil citation and an opportunity to participate in a pre-arrest diversion program when that officer stops or detains a juvenile with reasonable grounds to believe that the juvenile has committed a first-time offense that is a nonviolent misdemeanor-grade delinquent act.

Proposed law provides for exceptions.

Proposed law provides for a resolution of the civil citation within 90 days and provides that the civil citation does not constitute certain records or data.

Proposed law prohibits the assessment of any fines, fees, or court costs against a juvenile who has been referred to a pre-arrest diversion program.

Proposed law provides for the submission of an annual report to the legislature with annual data on juvenile stops or detentions, citations, arrests, demographics, tract location, completion rates, and recidivism.

Proposed law requires the La. Commission on Law Enforcement (LCLE) and the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to promulgate and adopt all rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of proposed law no later than Dec. 31, 2026.

Effective on Jan. 1, 2027.

(Adds R.S. 15:960-964)