

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 955

BY REPRESENTATIVE KERNER

INSURANCE: Creates licensure for a Cash Bail Fund Surety and a GPS Monitoring Provider

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 22:1574 and to enact R.S. 22:1574.1 through 1574.4, relative to  
3 bail bond licensing; to provide for the creation of a Cash Bail Fund Surety License  
4 and a GPS Monitoring Provider License; to provide for licensure requirements; to  
5 provide for licensure exemptions; to restrict posting of cash bail for defendants  
6 charged with violent crimes; to provide for severability; and to provide for related  
7 matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 22:1574 is amended and reenacted and R.S. 22:1574.1 through  
10 1574.4 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §1574. Bail Bond Apprentice Program

12 A.(1) ~~The Bail Bond Apprentice Program is hereby created.~~ The Department  
13 of Insurance shall maintain a bail bond apprentice program.

14 (2) ~~The Bail Bond Apprentice Program shall be available only to persons~~  
15 ~~who meet current bail bond producer licensing requirements as provided for in this~~  
16 ~~Chapter and who are not sexual offenders or serial sexual offenders as defined in~~  
17 ~~R.S. 15:536.~~

18 (3) ~~All persons entering the Bail Bond Apprentice Program shall register~~  
19 ~~with the commissioner at least ten days prior to beginning the program. Registration~~  
20 ~~shall consist of filing with the commissioner a properly completed form prescribed~~

1 by the commissioner. ~~The information required on such form from each apprentice~~  
2 ~~shall include but shall not be limited to each of the following:~~

3 (a) ~~The name, home address, and telephone number of the registrant.~~

4 (b) ~~The date of birth and social security number of the registrant.~~

5 (c) ~~The date the prospective apprentice shall commence training in the Bail~~  
6 ~~Bond Apprentice Program.~~

7 (d) ~~The name, address, and license number of the supervising licensed bail~~  
8 ~~bond producer.~~

9 (4) ~~Apprentices shall complete eight hours of instruction in applicable~~  
10 ~~underwriting principles, state laws, and regulations, and ethical practices before the~~  
11 ~~end of the apprenticeship program. The instruction shall be conducted by one of the~~  
12 ~~following:~~

13 (a) ~~An insurance trade association.~~

14 (b) ~~An insurance company admitted to do business in Louisiana.~~

15 (c) ~~An accredited public or private college or university.~~

16 (5) ~~The registrant and supervising bail bond producer shall notify the~~  
17 ~~commissioner of any changes to the registration information within fifteen days of~~  
18 ~~the effective date of the change.~~

19 (6) ~~The supervising bail bond producer shall notify the commissioner of the~~  
20 ~~termination of an incomplete apprenticeship within fifteen days of the termination.~~

21 B. ~~The Bail Bond Apprentice Program shall consist of three consecutive~~  
22 ~~months of employment by a Department of Insurance licensed bail bond producer.~~  
23 ~~The apprentice shall be supervised by the producer during the three-month period~~  
24 ~~and work for no less than twenty-four hours per week. The apprentice shall observe~~  
25 ~~the bail bond producer, perform every phase of the bail bond business, and shall~~  
26 ~~perform duties in every phase of the bail bond business except for the solicitation,~~  
27 ~~negotiation, quotation of fees, and the execution of a bail bond. This Section does~~  
28 ~~not apply to applicants for a Cash Bail Fund Surety License pursuant to R.S.~~  
29 ~~22:1574.1 or GPS Monitoring Provider License pursuant to R.S. 22:1574.2.~~

1           ~~C. The supervising bail bond producer shall maintain records to support that~~  
2           ~~the apprentice has worked the required number of hours. For each apprentice, these~~  
3           ~~records shall include pay stubs and time sheets. Time sheets shall contain the~~  
4           ~~number of hours worked, the specific functions performed, and the date and time of~~  
5           ~~the performance of those functions. These records shall be made available for~~  
6           ~~examination and review to the Department of Insurance upon request.~~

7           ~~D.(1) Upon completion of the required three months of work experience,~~  
8           ~~without expulsion, the apprentice and the supervising bail bond producer shall~~  
9           ~~certify, on a form provided by the Department of Insurance, that the apprentice has~~  
10          ~~completed all of the requirements of the apprentice program. This form shall be a~~  
11          ~~notarized sworn affidavit, completed under penalty of perjury.~~

12          ~~(2) No person shall be permitted to sit for an examination as a bail bond~~  
13          ~~producer until completion of this apprenticeship program and until the required~~  
14          ~~certification of the completion has been submitted to the Department of Insurance~~  
15          ~~along with the required application for testing and licensure.~~

16          ~~(3) An apprenticeship shall terminate if not completed within six months of~~  
17          ~~the date of initial registration.~~

18          ~~E. The program created by the provisions of this Section shall be subject to~~  
19          ~~the provisions of this Title, and nothing in this Section shall be interpreted to permit~~  
20          ~~the payment of commissions to an unlicensed producer.~~

21          §1574.1. Cash Bail Fund Surety license; restrictions; requirements

22                 A. (1) Any person or entity posting more than three cash bonds per calendar  
23                 year shall obtain a license.

24                 (2) A license is not required Exemptions to this provision are; family,  
25                 friends, or congregants posting occasionally.

26                 B. Licensed cash bail fund sureties may not post cash bail for defendants  
27                 charged with offenses listed under R.S. 14:2; which includes murder, manslaughter,  
28                 aggravated assault, sexual assault, armed robbery, etc.

1           C.(1) A person applying for a cash bond fund surety license shall meet the  
2           following requirements:

3           (a) Submit application to the Department.

4           (b) Complete a background check.

5           (c) Complete approved education course.

6           (d) Maintain accurate records.

7           (e) Submit annual report.

8           (2) Exemptions to applying for a cash bond fund surety license are: no  
9           apprenticeship is required and no proof of financial responsibility is required.

10          §1574.2. GPS Monitoring Provider License requirements

11           A.(1) A person applying for a GPS monitoring license shall meet the  
12           following requirements:

13           (a) Submit application to the Department.

14           (b) Complete a background check.

15           (c) Complete approved education course.

16           (d) Maintain accurate records.

17           (e) Submit annual report.

18           (2) Exemptions to applying for a cash bond fund surety license are: no  
19           apprenticeship is required and no proof of financial responsibility is required.

20          §1574.3. Enforcement; penalties; fines

21           A. The Department may promulgate rules and enforce penalties which shall  
22           include but are not limited to; cease and desist orders, license suspension, revocation,  
23           or denial, and fines up to five thousand dollars per violation.

24          §1574.4. Acceptance of services

25           A. Courts, clerks, sheriffs, probation officers may only accept cash bail  
26           deposits or GPS services from licensed entities.

27           (1) Violations subject to administrative action and civil penalties.

28           B. The Department may promulgate rules to implement Sections 1574.1  
29           through 1574.4.

- 1                    C. Transitional provision and grand fathering
- 2                    (1) Existing organized cash depositors and GPS providers have twelve
- 3                    months to obtain licenses.
- 4                    (2) Notice of intent to apply within ninety days allows operations to continue
- 5                    during transition.
- 6                    (3) After twelve months, unlicensed entities subject to penalties.
- 7                    Section 2. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof is held invalid, such
- 8                    invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given
- 9                    effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end the provisions of this
- 10                   Act are hereby declared severable.
- 11                   Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall become on effective January 1, 2027.

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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 955 Original

2026 Regular Session

Kerner

**Abstract:** Creates licenses for a Cash Bail Fund Surety and a GPS Monitoring Provider. Provides requirements for each type of license. Removes certain requirements. Restricts posting of cash bail for certain defendants.

Present law provides licensing and oversight for traditional bail bonds producers but does not adequately address entities that post multiple cash deposits or provide monitoring services. Proposed law creates licensure for a Cash Bail Fund Surety and a GPS Monitoring Provider.

Proposed law establishes requirements for a Cash Bail Fund Surety and a GPS Monitoring Provider license.

Present law requires an applicant to complete an apprenticeship. Proposed law removes the apprenticeship requirement.

Proposed law removes proof of financial responsibility.

Proposed law restricts the posting of bail for defendants charged with violent crimes pursuant to R.S. 14:2.

Proposed law provides severability clause.

Effective January 1, 2027.

(Amends R.S. 22:1574, adds R.S. 22:1574.1–1574.4)