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## DIGEST

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HB 985 Original

2026 Regular Session

Dickerson

**Abstract:** Provides relative to driver's licenses and special identification cards applicable sex offenders.

Present law (R.S. 32:412) provides relative to driver's licenses applicable to the general public of the state of La.

Proposed law generally retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 32:412(I)) provides for procedures, guidelines, requirements, penalties, and applicability associated with the issuance of driver's licenses to registered sex offenders.

Proposed law amends present law as follows:

- (1) Provides for the placement of a QR code, rather than a restriction code, on the back of the driver's license of a sex offender for the purposes of assisting law enforcement in determining whether or not the license holder is a sex offender.
- (2) Removes the present law requirement for placement of the words "sex offender" in orange color on the driver's license.
- (3) Requires a registered sex offender to carry his driver's license that is issued pursuant to present law on his person at all times when he is outside of his residence.
- (4) Provides for a penalty consisting of a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 or imprisonment for a maximum of six months for a person who intentionally fails to meet the requirements of present law.
- (5) Requires a registered sex offender who has been issued a driver's license pursuant to present law to forfeit his driver's license to the office of motor vehicles (OMV) if he subsequently obtains a special ID card pursuant to present law (R.S. 40:1321(J)).

Present law (R.S. 40:1321) provides relative to special ID cards applicable to the general public of the state of La.

Proposed law generally retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 40:1321(J)) provides for procedures, guidelines, requirements, penalties, and applicability associated with the issuance of special ID cards to registered sex offenders.

Proposed law amends present law as follows:

- (1) Provides for the placement of a QR code, rather than a restriction code, on the back of the special ID of a sex offender for the purposes of assisting law enforcement in determining whether or not the ID holder is a sex offender.
- (2) Removes the present law requirement for placement of the words "sex offender" in orange color on the special ID.
- (3) Requires a registered sex offender to carry his special ID that is issued pursuant to present law on his person at all times when he is outside of his residence.
- (4) Provides for a penalty consisting of a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 or imprisonment for a maximum of six months for a person who, rather than violates, intentionally fails to meet the requirements of present law.
- (5) Requires a registered sex offender who has been issued a special ID card pursuant to present law to forfeit his special ID card to the OMV if he subsequently obtains a driver's license pursuant to present law (R.S. 32:412(I)).

Effective on Jan. 1, 2027.

(Amends R.S. 32:412(I) and R.S. 40:1321(J))