

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 995

BY REPRESENTATIVE LACOMBE

CRIMINAL/PROCEDURE: Provides relative to the electronic access of videotaped statements of protected persons

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Children's Code Article 327(C) and to enact R.S. 15:440.5(D) and  
3 Children's Code Article 327(D), relative to videotaped statements of protected  
4 persons; to provide relative to accessibility; to provide for limitations; to provide  
5 relative to the production of videotaped statements at trial; and to provide for related  
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 15:440.5(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §440.5. Admissibility of videotaped statements; discovery by defendant

10 \* \* \*

11 D. The district attorney, if required to provide a copy of a videotaped  
12 statement of a protected person, may provide the defendant's attorney, the court, or  
13 any other person permitted by law with electronic access to a copy of the videotaped  
14 statement in a manner that is sufficient to protect the rights of the criminal defendant  
15 under the United States Constitution and Louisiana Constitution. This Subsection  
16 does not permit any of the following:

17 (1) The authorization of a pro se criminal defendant to electronically access  
18 a copy of a videotaped statement of a protected person.

19 (2) The negation or circumvention of any requirement that a physical copy  
20 of the videotaped statement of a protected person be produced at a criminal trial.



- (2) The negation or circumvention of any requirement that a physical copy of the videotaped statement of a protected person be produced at a criminal trial.

(Amends Ch.C. Art. 327(C); Adds R.S. 15:440.5(D) and Ch.C. Art. 327(D))