

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 156

BY SENATOR KLEINPETER

CRIME/PUNISHMENT. Increases the maximum period of imprisonment for negligent homicide. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:32(C)(1) and (2), relative to negligent homicide; to provide
3 relative to penalties; to increase the maximum term of imprisonment for negligent
4 homicide under certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 14:32(C)(1) and (2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
7 follows:

8 §32. Negligent homicide

9 * * *

10 C.(1)(a) Except as provided for in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, whoever
11 commits the crime of negligent homicide shall be ~~imprisoned with or without hard~~
12 ~~labor for not more than ten years~~, fined not more than five thousand dollars, or
13 imprisoned, with or without labor, for not more than fifteen years, or both.

14 (b) If the court does not order the offender to a term of imprisonment
15 when the following two factors are established, the court shall state, both orally
16 and in writing at the time of sentencing, the reasons for not sentencing the
17 offender to a term of imprisonment:

Proposed law increases the maximum period of imprisonment from 10 years to 15 years regardless of the victim's age and otherwise retains present law.

Proposed law provides that an offender will be imprisoned at hard labor for not less than two years nor more than 20 years if:

- (1) The victim was less than 13 years of age.
- (2) The death was the result of criminally negligent mistreatment, abuse, or neglect.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends 14:32(C)(1) and (2))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary C to the original bill

1. Delete proposed law provision relative to the offender's age.
2. Reduce the minimum age of the victim for the proposed law enhanced penalty from 17 to 13.
3. Delete the element of intentional mistreatment, abuse, or neglect from proposed law.
4. Reduce the proposed law maximum period of incarceration from 40 years to 20 years.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Make technical changes.