
DIGEST

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HB 995 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

LaCombe

Abstract: Provides relative to the electronic access of videotaped statements of protected persons.

Present law (R.S. 15:440.5 and Ch.C. Art. 327) provides relative to the admissibility of videotaped statements of protected persons.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that any requirement that a copy of a videotaped statement of a protected person be provided to a criminal defendant's attorney, to a court, or to any other person entitled by law to such a copy may be satisfied by providing electronic access to view the videotaped statement in a manner that is sufficient to protect the constitutional rights of the criminal defendant.

Proposed law does not permit any of the following:

- (1) The authorization of a pro se criminal defendant to electronically access a copy of a videotaped statement of a protected person.
- (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 where a party is introducing the videotaped statement of a protected person as evidence at the criminal trial.

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

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Clarify that the disclosure requirement relative to a copy of a videotaped statement of a protected person may be satisfied by providing electronic access to view the videotaped statement in a manner that is sufficient to protect the constitutional rights of the criminal defendant.
2. Clarify that the limitation within proposed law relative to 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 is applicable where a party is introducing the videotaped statement of a protected person as evidence at the criminal trial.