

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2026 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary C to Original Senate Bill No. 470 by Senator Mizell

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, line 2, delete "enact R.S. 15:744.9" and insert "amend and reenact R.S.  
3 15:744.3(A), the introductory paragraph of 744.3(B) and 744.3(C)(3), and 744.5(2) and to  
4 enact R.S. 15:744.5(7) and 744.9"

5 AMENDMENT NO. 2

6 On page 1, line 4, after "facilities;" insert "to provide relative to the use of restraints on  
7 pregnant and postpartum prisoners;"

8 AMENDMENT NO. 3

9 On page 1, line 8, delete "R.S. 15:744.9 is" and insert "R.S. 15:744.3(A), the introductory  
10 paragraph of 744.3(B) and 744.3(C)(3), and 744.5(2) are hereby amended and reenacted and  
11 R.S. 15:744.5(7) and 744.9 are"

12 AMENDMENT NO. 4

13 On page 1, between lines 8 and 9, insert:

14 "§744.3. Restraint during ~~childbirth~~ **pregnancy and postpartum recovery**

15 A. Restraints shall not be used on a pregnant prisoner while she is in labor  
16 and during delivery unless a member of the medical staff orders therapeutic restraints  
17 for a prisoner who, due to a psychiatric or medical disorder, is a danger to herself,  
18 her child, her unborn child, or other persons. ~~For purposes of this Section,~~  
19 ~~"therapeutic restraints" shall not include metal handcuffs or shackles.~~

20 B. No restraints shall be used on a prisoner known to be pregnant during any  
21 pregnancy-related medical distress, or while she is being transported to a medical  
22 facility or the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women for **prenatal care,**  
23 **delivery,** or any pregnancy-related medical distress, or during postpartum recovery,  
24 unless there are compelling grounds to believe that the prisoner presents either of the  
25 following:

26 \* \* \*

27 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection B of this Section:

28 \* \* \*

29 (3) Under no circumstances shall waist restraints **or shackles** be used on any  
30 **pregnant** prisoner during transportation to a medical facility or postpartum recovery.

31 \* \* \*

32 §744.5. Definitions

33 For purposes of this Part:

34 \* \* \*

35 (2) "Postpartum" means the period ~~following delivery before a prisoner or~~  
36 ~~detainee has been discharged from a medical facility~~ **that begins immediately after**  
37 **childbirth and lasts for no less than six weeks. The medical professional**  
38 **treating the pregnant prisoner after childbirth may extend the postpartum**  
39 **period beyond six weeks based on his medical judgment if it is medically**  
40 **necessary to ensure recovery.**

41 \* \* \*

42 (7) **"Therapeutic restraint" means flex cuffs or soft restraints.**

43 \* \* \*

1 AMENDMENT NO. 5

2 On page 1, delete lines 10 through 14 and insert:

3 "A. During the intake process at every state and local correctional  
4 facility, a pregnancy test shall be offered to each woman aged fifty-five years or  
5 younger who is arrested and taken into custody.

6 B. The woman's consent or refusal to take a pregnancy test and the  
7 result of any test administered shall be documented.

8 C. The Louisiana Department of Health shall identify available  
9 pregnancy test funding sources for the purposes of this Section.

10 D. For purposes of this Section, "correctional facility" includes state,  
11 parish, and municipal facilities including jails, detention centers, and prisons."