

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 371

BY SENATOR ABRAHAM

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. Creates a public registry for repeat domestic violence offenders.  
(8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 3-H of Title 15 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised

3 of R.S. 15:564 through 564.5, relative to domestic violence; to create the Habitual

4 Domestic Violence Offender Registry; to provide for registration requirements; to

5 provide for notification to law enforcement; to provide for duration of registration;

6 to provide for registry operation; to create the crime of failure to register and notify

7 as a habitual domestic violence offender; to provide for elements of the crime; to

8 provide definitions; to provide penalties; to provide for effectiveness subject to

9 appropriation; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. Chapter 3-H of Title 15 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,  
12 comprised of R.S. 15:564 through 564.5, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 CHAPTER 3-H. HABITUAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

14 OFFENDER REGISTRY

15 §564. Definitions

16 For the purposes of this Chapter:

17 (1) "Bureau" means the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and

1 Information as established in Chapter 6 of this Title.

2 (2) "Conviction" means any disposition of charges adverse to the  
3 defendant, including a plea of guilty, deferred adjudication, or adjudication  
4 withheld for the perpetration or attempted perpetration of or conspiracy to  
5 commit any offense enumerated in R.S. 15:564.1. "Conviction" shall not include  
6 a decision not to prosecute, a dismissal, or an acquittal, except when the  
7 acquittal is due to a finding of not guilty by reason of insanity and the person  
8 was committed. A dismissal entered after a period of probation, suspension, or  
9 deferral of sentence shall be included in the definition of "conviction" for  
10 purposes of this Chapter.

11 (3) "Dating partner" means any person who is involved or has been  
12 involved in a sexual or intimate relationship with the offender, characterized by  
13 the expectation of affectionate involvement independent of financial  
14 considerations, regardless of whether the person presently lives or formerly  
15 lived in the same residence with the offender. "Dating partner" shall not include  
16 a casual relationship or ordinary association between persons in a business or  
17 social context.

18 (4) "Domestic abuse victim" means a victim of the offenses enumerated  
19 in R.S. 15:564.1 who is also a household member, family member, or dating  
20 partner of the offender.

21 (5) "Family member" means a spouse, former spouse, parent, child,  
22 stepparent, stepchild, foster parent, foster child, other ascendants, and other  
23 descendants. "Family member" also means the other parent or foster parent of  
24 any child or foster child of the offender.

25 (6) "Household member" means any person presently or formerly living  
26 in the same residence with the offender and who is involved or has been  
27 involved in a sexual or intimate relationship with the offender, or any child  
28 presently or formerly living in the same residence with the offender, or any  
29 child of the offender regardless of where the child resides.

1           **(7) "Habitual domestic violence offender" means a person who receives**  
2           **more than one conviction for any single or combination of two or more of the**  
3           **offenses enumerated in R.S. 15:564.1.**

4           **(8) "Online identifier" means any electronic email address, instant**  
5           **message name, chat name, social networking name, or other similar internet**  
6           **communication name.**

7           **(9) "Out-of-state offender" means any offender convicted or adjudicated**  
8           **in any court system, other than a court in this state, of any offense having**  
9           **elements equivalent to any offense enumerated in R.S. 15:564.1.**

10           **(10) "Postsecondary educational institution" means any public or private**  
11           **institution of postsecondary education in the state licensed by the Board of**  
12           **Regents under the provisions of R.S. 17:1808 or each proprietary school**  
13           **licensed by the Board of Regents under the provisions of R.S. 17:3141.4.**

14           **(11) "Residence" means a dwelling where an offender regularly resides,**  
15           **regardless of the number of days or nights spent there. For those offenders who**  
16           **lack a fixed abode or dwelling, "residence" shall include the area or place where**  
17           **the offender habitually lives, including but not limited to a rural area with no**  
18           **address, or a shelter.**

19           **(12) "School" includes any public or nonpublic school which the person**  
20           **attends, including but not limited to institutions of postsecondary education.**

21           **(13) "Social networking website" means an internet website that either:**

22           **(a) Allows users to create web pages or profiles about themselves that are**  
23           **available publicly or available to other users.**

24           **(b) Offers a mechanism for communication among users, such as a**  
25           **forum, chat room, electronic email, or instant messaging.**

26           **§564.1. Habitual Domestic Violence Offender Registry**

27           **A. Subject to the exceptions provided in Subsection B of this Section, any**  
28           **adult residing in this state who receives a third or subsequent conviction for, or**  
29           **is being released on probation or parole for a third or subsequent violation of**

1 any of the following offenses, on or after August 1, 2027, shall be required to  
2 register as a habitual domestic violence offender when the victims of the  
3 criminal acts were one or more domestic abuse victims:

4 (1) R.S. 14:34.9 (Battery of a dating partner).

5 (2) R.S. 14:34.9.1 (Aggravated assault upon a dating partner).

6 (3) R.S. 14:35.3 (Domestic abuse battery).

7 (4) R.S. 14:37.7 (Domestic abuse aggravated assault).

8 B. This Chapter shall not apply to an offender who is required to register  
9 as a sex offender or child predator pursuant to R.S. 15:542 or with the Child  
10 Abuse and Neglect Registry pursuant to R.S. 15:563.

11 C.(1) The court shall provide written notification to an offender that is  
12 subject to the provisions of this Chapter that he shall be required and is ordered  
13 to register with the Habitual Domestic Violence Offender Registry upon his  
14 release, or as a condition of his probation or parole.

15 (2) In addition to any other punishment that may be imposed for a  
16 conviction of the offense, the court shall impose a one hundred fifty dollar fine  
17 on the offender, which shall be paid to the clerk of the court imposing the  
18 additional fine. The clerk of court shall remit the full amount of the fine to the  
19 bureau within seven days of receipt to defray the costs associated with  
20 registration.

21 (3) Nothing in this Chapter shall be interpreted as requiring that a prior  
22 conviction for an offense listed in Subsection A of this Section be required to  
23 occur after August 1, 2027, in order to require registration.

24 D.(1) An offender ordered to register pursuant to this Section shall  
25 register in person with the sheriff of the parish of the offender's residence or  
26 residences if there is more than one.

27 (2) The offender shall also notify, within fourteen days, to the following  
28 law enforcement agencies, as applicable, that he has registered:

29 (a) The chief of police if the address of any of the offender's residences

1 is located in an incorporated area that has a police department.

2 (b) The campus police department of any postsecondary educational  
3 institution the offender either resides on or physically attends classes.

4 E. No later than three business days after his release, an offender who is  
5 required to register shall register and provide the following information to the  
6 law enforcement agencies designated in Paragraph (D)(1) of this Section:

7 (1) Name and any aliases used by the offender.

8 (2) The offender's physical address or addresses of residence.

9 (3) Name and physical address of the offender's place of employment.

10 (4) Name and physical address of the school in which he is a student.

11 (5) Two forms of proof of residence for each residential address  
12 provided, including but not limited to a driver's license, bill for utility service,  
13 or bill for telephone service. If these forms of proof of residence are not  
14 available, the offender may provide an affidavit of an adult resident living at the  
15 same address. The affidavit shall certify that the affiant understands his  
16 obligation, and the associated criminal penalties, to provide written notice  
17 pursuant to R.S. 15:564.4 to the appropriate law enforcement agency if either  
18 he or the offender ceases to reside at the residence provided in the affidavit.

19 (6) The crimes for which the offender was convicted and the dates and  
20 location of the convictions, and if known by the offender, the court in which the  
21 convictions were obtained, the docket numbers of the cases, the specific statutes  
22 for which he was convicted, and the sentences imposed.

23 (7) A current color photograph of the offender.

24 (8) The offender's telephone numbers, including fixed location phone and  
25 mobile phone numbers assigned to the offender or associated with any residence  
26 address of the offender.

27 (9) A description of every motorized vehicle registered to or operated by  
28 the offender, including the license plate number and vehicle identification  
29 number, and a copy of the offender's driver's license or identification card. This

1 information shall be provided prior to the offender's operation of the vehicle.

2 (10) The offender's social security number and date of birth.

3 (11) A description of the physical characteristics of the offender,  
4 including but not limited to sex, race, hair color, eye color, height, age, weight,  
5 scars, and tattoos or other identifying marks on the body of the offender.

6 (12) Every email address, online screen name, or other online identifier  
7 used by the offender to communicate on the internet. This notice shall be given  
8 prior to using the online identifier to communicate on the internet.

9 (13) If the offender uses a static internet protocol address, that address  
10 shall also be provided to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

11 (14) Passport, permanent resident card, military identification, visa, or  
12 other travel or immigration documents.

13 F. Upon receiving registration information pursuant to this Section, the  
14 law enforcement agency receiving the information shall immediately enter it  
15 into the Habitual Domestic Violence Offender Registry.

16 §564.2. Duration of registration and notification period

17 A person required to register pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter  
18 shall comply with the requirement and keep current his registration  
19 information for ten years from the date of initial registration in Louisiana  
20 unless the underlying convictions are reversed, set aside, or vacated.

21 §564.3. Duties of the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and  
22 Information

23 A.(1) The Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information  
24 shall develop and maintain the Habitual Domestic Violence Offender Registry.  
25 The registry shall contain the information transmitted to the bureau pursuant  
26 to the provisions of this Chapter. Upon receipt of the registration and  
27 information of any person subject to the provisions of this Chapter, the bureau  
28 shall immediately enter the appropriate information in the public registry. The  
29 bureau shall accept electronically submitted information and registration

1 renewal information from law enforcement.

2 (2)(a) The bureau shall provide for public access to the information  
3 contained in the registry, including internet-based access, which shall have field-  
4 search capabilities.

5 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this  
6 Paragraph, the following information shall be exempt from public access:

7 (i) Social security numbers.

8 (ii) Names of the victims of the offenses requiring registration.

9 (iii) Telephone numbers, subject to the provisions of Subparagraphs (c)  
10 and (d) of this Paragraph.

11 (iv) Email addresses.

12 (v) Any address that is the same address as a victim of one or more of the  
13 offenses that required the offender's registration.

14 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (b) of this  
15 Paragraph, which provides for exemptions to public access of telephone  
16 numbers, email addresses, online screen names, or other online identities, the  
17 registry shall contain the ability to search by telephone numbers, email  
18 addresses, online screen names, or other online identities to provide information  
19 to the person conducting the search regarding whether or not that information  
20 has been linked to a person convicted of an offense in R.S. 15:564.1(A). This  
21 search shall not disclose the name or any other identifying information about  
22 the offender to the person conducting the search, except to identify that the  
23 information has been linked to a person convicted of an offense in R.S.  
24 15:564.1(A).

25 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraphs (b) and (c) of this  
26 Paragraph, the bureau shall, upon request by any person or entity in a manner  
27 prescribed by the bureau, provide a list of telephone numbers, email addresses,  
28 online screen names, static internet protocol addresses, or other online identities  
29 of persons in the Habitual Domestic Violence Offender Registry for the purpose

1 of identifying and monitoring a registered user associated with the telephone  
2 number, email address, online screen name, static internet protocol address, or  
3 other online identity. The information provided to the person or entity shall not  
4 disclose the name or other identifying information of the offender that is  
5 associated with, or who is using, any of the telephone numbers, email addresses,  
6 online screen names, static internet protocol addresses, or other online identities  
7 in the provided list.

8 (e) The bureau shall maintain a Habitual Domestic Violence Offender  
9 Registry website on the internet, which shall contain a disclaimer informing the  
10 public of all of the following:

11 (i) The information contained on the site is obtained from offenders, and  
12 the department does not guarantee its accuracy or completeness.

13 (ii) Members of the public are not allowed to use the information to  
14 harass or threaten offenders or members of their families.

15 (iii) Harassment, stalking, or threats against offenders or their families  
16 are prohibited and doing so may violate Louisiana criminal laws.

17 (iv) The registry contains information regarding only certain criminal  
18 offenses. Domestic violence often includes behavior that falls outside of these  
19 criminal offenses. If a person feels unsafe in a relationship, help is available.

20 (v) The Louisiana Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline telephone  
21 number is (1-888-411-1333).

22 B. The bureau is hereby designated as the state agency to receive  
23 information regarding an out-of-state offender convicted of an offense similar  
24 or equivalent to any enumerated in R.S. 15:564.1(A) who establishes a residence  
25 in this state pursuant to R.S. 15:542.1.3.

26 C. The bureau may promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with  
27 the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this Chapter.

28 D.(1) The bureau shall provide for the capability which would allow a  
29 social networking website to compare the database of registered users of that

1 social networking website to the list of electronic mail addresses, instant  
2 message addresses, and other similar online identifiers of persons in the  
3 Habitual Domestic Violence Offender Registry.

4 (2) A social networking website desiring to compare its database of  
5 registered users to the list of electronic mail addresses, instant message  
6 addresses, and other online identifiers of persons in the registry shall provide  
7 to the bureau all of the following information:

8 (a) The name, address, and telephone number of the entity operating the  
9 social networking website.

10 (b) The legal nature and corporate status of the entity operating the  
11 social networking website.

12 (c) A statement signed by the chief legal officer of the social networking  
13 website to the effect that the information obtained from the registry shall not  
14 be disclosed for any purpose other than for comparing the database of  
15 registered users of the social networking website against the list of electronic  
16 mail addresses, instant message addresses, and other online identifiers of  
17 persons contained in the state registry to protect people from domestic violence,  
18 and that disclosure of this information for any other purpose may be unlawful.

19 (d) The name, address, and telephone number of a natural person who  
20 is authorized to receive service of process for the entity operating the social  
21 networking website.

22 (3) After complying with the requirements of Paragraph (2) of this  
23 Subsection, the entity operating the social networking website may screen users  
24 or compare its database of registered users to the list of electronic mail  
25 addresses, instant message addresses, and other online identifiers of persons  
26 contained in the Habitual Domestic Violence Offender Registry as frequently  
27 as the bureau will allow for the purpose of identifying, monitoring, or removing  
28 a registered user associated with electronic mail addresses, instant message  
29 addresses, and other online identifiers contained in the registry.

1           (4) An entity operating a social networking website which complies with  
2           the provisions of Paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Subsection and its directors,  
3           officers, employees, or agents may claim such compliance as a defense to a claim  
4           for liability arising against the entity or those persons.

5           §564.4. Failure to register and notify as a habitual domestic violence offender;  
6                           penalties

7           A.(1) It shall be a violation of this Chapter for an offender who is  
8           ordered to register pursuant to R.S. 15:564.1 to perform any of the following:

9                           (a) Fail to register as ordered by the court.

10                          (b) Knowingly provide false or outdated registration information to any  
11           law enforcement officer, office, or agency required to receive registration  
12           information.

13                          (c) Fail to notify any law enforcement officer, office, or agency required  
14           to receive registration information of changes or updates to registration  
15           information within fourteen days of applicability.

16                          (d) Fail to provide notice to a local or campus police department as  
17           provided in this Chapter.

18           (2) An offender who violates the provisions of Subsection A of this  
19           Section shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned, with  
20           or without hard labor, for not more than one year, or both, and have any  
21           outstanding probation revoked.

22           B.(1) It shall be a violation of this Chapter for any person who certifies  
23           the location of the residence of an offender by affidavit to a law enforcement  
24           agency to fail to send written notice of the following to the same law  
25           enforcement agency:

26                          (a) The offender no longer resides at the address provided in the affidavit  
27           any time the offender is absent from the residence for a period of thirty days.  
28           The notification shall be sent within three days of the end of the thirty-day  
29           period.

- 1                   **(b) Either the offender or the affiant vacates the residence with the intent**  
 2                   **to establish a new residence at another location. This notification must be sent**  
 3                   **within three days of the offender or the affiant vacating the residence with the**  
 4                   **requisite intent.**
- 5                   **(2) Any person who fails to provide the notice required by this**  
 6                   **Subsection shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned for**  
 7                   **not more than six months, or both.**
- 8                   **§564.5. Subject to appropriation**
- 9                   **The implementation of this Chapter shall be subject to the appropriation**  
 10                   **of funds by the legislature for this purpose.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 371 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Abraham

Proposed law creates the Habitual Domestic Violence Offender Registry within the La. Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information (bureau) for offenders who, after August 1, 2027, receive a third or subsequent conviction for certain violations of present law when the victim is a family member, household member, or dating partner.

Proposed law provides definitions for "bureau", "conviction", "dating partner", "domestic abuse victim", "family member", "household member", "habitual domestic violence offender", "online offender", "out-of-state offender", "postsecondary educational institution", "residence", "school", and "social networking website".

Proposed law provides an exception to the provisions of proposed law for offenders who are required to register as a sex offender, child predator, or child abuser pursuant to present law.

Proposed law provides that the court will provide written notice to a habitual domestic violence offender that he is required within three days to register upon his release from incarceration or as a condition of his probation or parole. Proposed law also provides that the court will impose, in addition to any other penalty, a \$150 fine that the offender will pay to the clerk of court, and that the clerk will remit the fine to the bureau within seven days of receipt to defray the costs associated with registration.

Proposed law provides that an offender who is required to register will provide certain information to the sheriff's department in any parish in which he resides. Proposed law also provides that this information will include proof that the offender resides at the address he claims and that, if an offender is unable to provide proof of his address, he may submit an affidavit from an adult resident living at the same address attesting that the offender resides at the same address as the affiant.

Proposed law provides that the law enforcement agency that receives registration information will immediately enter it into the registry.

Proposed law provides that a registered habitual domestic violence offender will notify certain local and campus police departments that he is registered as a habitual domestic violence offender within 14 days of registration.

Proposed law provides that an offender's name will stay on the registry for 10 years from the date of initial registration unless the underlying convictions are reversed, set aside, or vacated. Proposed law also provides that an offender must keep his registration information current.

Proposed law provides that the bureau will have certain duties related to the creation, operation, and maintenance of the registry that include but are not limited to:

- (1) Maintaining a central publicly accessible registry subject to certain confidentiality provisions for specified information.
- (2) Receiving information regarding out-of-state offenders who establish a residence in La. and are convicted of offenses in other states that would require registration had the convictions been obtained in La.
- (3) Promulgating rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement proposed law.
- (4) Implementing certain information sharing capabilities with social networking websites for the purpose of identifying or monitoring registered users.

Proposed law creates the crime of failure to register and notify as a habitual domestic violence offender and provides that it is a violation for:

- (1) A habitual domestic violence offender to:
  - (a) Fail to register as ordered by the court.
  - (b) Knowingly provide false or outdated registration information.
  - (c) Fail to notify, within 14 days, any law enforcement officer, office, or agency required to receive registration information of changes or updates to registration information.
  - (d) Fail to provide notice of registration to a local or campus police department, as applicable, within 14 days.
- (2) A person who certifies by affidavit the address of an offender to a law enforcement agency to fail to send written notice to the same law enforcement agency notifying it, within the designated time period, that:
  - (a) The offender no longer resides at the address provided in the affidavit any time the offender is absent from the residence for a period of 30 days. The notification must be sent within three days of the end of the 30-day period.
  - (b) Either the offender or the affiant vacates the residence with the intent to establish a new residence at another location. This notification must be sent within three days of the offender or the affiant vacating the residence with the requisite intent.

Proposed law provides that an offender who fails to register as required by proposed law will be fined not more than \$1,000, or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than one year, or both, and will have any outstanding probation revoked.

Proposed law provides that an affiant who violates proposed law will be fined not more than \$500, or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

Proposed law provides that the implementation of proposed law will be subject to the appropriation of necessary funds by the legislature.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 15:564-564.5)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Change applicability of the proposed law registration requirement from second and subsequent offenses to third and subsequent offenses.
2. Delete the proposed law registration requirement for certain present law offenses.