

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2026 Regular Session

Substitute for Original House Bill No. 884 by Representative Spell as proposed by the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice

This document reflects the content of a substitute bill but is not in a bill form; page numbers in this document DO NOT correspond to page numbers in the substitute bill itself.

To amend and reenact R.S. 15:624(A)(1)(introductory paragraph) and (B) through (D), to enact R.S. 15:555(A)(18), 557, and 624(E) and (F) and Part XI of Subchapter D of Chapter 5-D of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 40:1228.1 through 1228.11, and to repeal Part III-A of Subchapter D of Chapter 5-D of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 40:1216.1, relative to sexual assault nurse examiners; to provide for the membership of the Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission; to provide for the creation, duties, and membership of a subcommittee of the Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission; to provide for reporting requirements; to provide for a statement of legislative intent; to provide for a purpose; to create the position of the statewide sexual assault nurse examiner coordinator or "SANE" coordinator; to provide for duties; to provide for definitions; to establish a TeleSANE training and mobile SANE program; to provide for reports to law enforcement; to provide relative to forensic medical examinations; to provide relative to standards of hospitals and healthcare providers; to provide relative to the reproduction of certain records; to provide for coordination; to provide for a public records exception; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:5624(A)(1)(introductory paragraph) and (B) through (D) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 15:555(A)(18), 557, and 624(E) and (F) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

CHAPTER 3-C. LOUISIANA SEXUAL ASSAULT OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

§555. Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission; creation; membership; meetings

1 A. The Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission is hereby created
2 within the Department of Justice, office of the attorney general. The commission
3 shall consist of the following members:

4 * * *

5 (18) The statewide sexual assault nurse examiner, or SANE, coordinator or
6 his designee.

7 * * *

8 §557. Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission; sexual assault response
9 standards subcommittee

10 A. The Sexual Assault Response Standards Subcommittee, referred to in this
11 Section as the "subcommittee", is hereby established as a subcommittee of the
12 Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission. The duties of the subcommittee
13 are as follows:

14 (1) Review sexual assault nurse examiner, or SANE, training protocols that
15 include but are not limited to both didactic and clinical preceptor training in
16 accordance with available best practices per a national training organization in order
17 to establish state sanctioned credentialing.

18 (2) Review and establish the standards and criteria of a statewide registry of
19 SANE-trained and SANE-credentialed nurses or healthcare providers and provide
20 recommendations regarding the appropriate state agencies to maintain and administer
21 the registry.

22 (3) Review and establish statewide sexual assault response protocols in
23 accordance with the needs and best practices identified within the regional sexual
24 assault response plans from each Louisiana Department of Health regional medical
25 director.

26 B. The subcommittee shall consist of the following twelve members:

27 (1) The statewide SANE coordinator or his designee.

28 (2) One practicing SANE-trained nurse, appointed by the attorney general,
29 who is affiliated with any state SANE nurse association.

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1 (3) One representative from the Louisiana State Board of Nursing appointed
2 by the governor.

3 (4) The chief medical officer within the Louisiana Department of Health,
4 office of public health, or his designee.

5 (5) One representative of the Louisiana Hospital Association appointed by
6 the governor.

7 (6) One representative of a Louisiana sexual assault response center,
8 appointed by the governor, who provides advocacy services.

9 (7) One representative from the Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy
10 Centers appointed by the governor.

11 (8) One representative from the Louisiana State Coroner's Association
12 appointed by the governor.

13 (9) One representative from the Louisiana District Attorneys Association
14 appointed by the governor.

15 (10) One representative from the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association appointed
16 by the governor.

17 (11) One representative from the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police
18 appointed by the governor.

19 (12) One representative from Louisiana State Police appointed by the
20 governor.

21 C. The statewide SANE coordinator or his designee shall serve as chairman
22 of the subcommittee. Members of the subcommittee shall serve at the pleasure of
23 the appointing authority and without compensation. Travel expenses, per diem, and
24 other expenses may be paid by the member's employer or appointing authority. The
25 office of the attorney general shall provide staff and administrative services needed
26 by the subcommittee to carry out the duties set forth in this Section.

27 D. The subcommittee shall fix a time and place for its meetings and shall
28 meet at least once every four months. Additional meetings may be held upon the call
29 of the chairman.

1 Senate Committee on Judiciary B and the chairman of the House Committee on
2 Judiciary.

3 (2) The report shall also include the name and contact information of each
4 criminal justice agency, including each college and university campus police
5 department and each crime laboratory, that failed to submit the report required by
6 Subsections A and B of this Section.

7 ~~D. F.~~ F. As used in this Section, the following terms have the following
8 meanings:

9 (1) "Criminal justice agency" means any government agency or subunit
10 thereof, or private agency that, through statutory authorization or a legal formal
11 agreement with a governmental unit or agency, has the power of investigation, arrest,
12 detention, prosecution, adjudication, treatment, supervision, rehabilitation or release
13 of persons suspected, charged, or convicted of a crime; or that collects, stores,
14 processes, transmits, or disseminates criminal history records or crime information.

15 (2) "Reported sexual assault collection kit" means a kit that contains a
16 human biological specimen or specimens collected during a forensic medical
17 examination from the victim of a sexually oriented criminal offense who reported the
18 crime to law enforcement.

19 (3) "Sexual assault collection kit" means a kit that is designed to assist in the
20 preservation of a human biological specimen or specimens collected during a
21 forensic medical examination from the victim of a sexually oriented criminal
22 offense.

23 (4) "Sexually oriented criminal offense" includes any sexual assault offense
24 as defined in R.S. 44:51 and any sexual abuse offense as defined in R.S. 14:403.

25 (5) "Unreported sexual assault collection kit" means a kit that contains a
26 human biological specimen or specimens collected during a forensic medical
27 examination from the victim of a sexually oriented criminal offense who declined
28 to report the crime to law enforcement.

1 Section 2. Part XI of Subchapter D of Chapter 5-D of Title 40 of the Louisiana
2 Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 40:1228.1 through 1228.10, is hereby
3 enacted to read as follows:

4 PART XI. SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUALLY ORIENTED CRIMINAL
5 OFFENSES ACCESS ACT

6 §1228.1. Short title

7 This Part shall be known and may be cited as the "Services For Survivors of
8 Sexually Oriented Criminal Offenses Access Act".

9 §1228.2. Findings and purpose

10 A. The legislature hereby finds and declares all of the following:

11 (1) Sexual assault is a serious public health and criminal justice issue that
12 affects individuals of all ages, genders, and backgrounds throughout the state of
13 Louisiana.

14 (2) Timely, high-quality forensic medical examinations by a trained sexual
15 assault nurse examiner, referred to in this Part as "SANE", are critical to ensuring
16 survivor-centered care, collecting forensic evidence, and supporting prosecution of
17 sexual assault offenders.

18 (3) Access to SANE services is uneven across the state, with significant gaps
19 in rural and underserved regions.

20 (4) Establishing a statewide SANE coordinator and regional mobile SANE
21 nurse teams will improve equitable access to forensic nursing services for survivors
22 of sexual assault throughout the state.

23 B. The purpose of this Part is to ensure that every survivor of sexual assault
24 in this state has access to a trained sexual assault nurse examiner regardless of
25 geographic location, and to establish a coordinated, sustainable statewide
26 infrastructure for the performance of forensic medical examinations for victims of
27 sexually oriented offenses.

28 §1228.3. Definitions

29 For the purposes of this Part, the following terms have the following
30 meanings:

1 (1) "Department" means the Louisiana Department of Justice.

2 (2) "Forensic medical examination" has the same meaning as defined in R.S.
3 15:622.

4 (3) "Healthcare provider" means either of the following:

5 (a) A physician, sexual assault nurse examiner, or other healthcare
6 practitioner licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise authorized and trained to
7 perform a forensic medical examination.

8 (b) A licensed hospital that operates an emergency department.

9 (4) "Healthcare services" mean services, items, supplies, or drugs for the
10 diagnosis, prevention, treatment, cure, or relief of a health condition, illness, injury,
11 or disease ancillary to a sexually oriented criminal offense.

12 (5) "Sexual assault collection kit" includes all evidence collected during a
13 forensic medical examination.

14 (6) "Sexually oriented criminal offense" has the same meaning as defined in
15 R.S. 15:622.

16 (7) "Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner" or "SANE" means a registered nurse
17 who has received specialized training as determined by the Sexual Assault Response
18 Standards Subcommittee in conducting forensic medical examinations for survivors
19 of sexually oriented criminal offenses.

20 (8) "Unreported sexual assault collection kit" means a sexual assault
21 collection kit for which a law enforcement agency has not received a related report
22 or complaint alleging that a sexual assault has occurred.

23 §1228.4. Statewide SANE coordinator; creation; duties

24 A. The department shall create and maintain the position of statewide sexual
25 assault nurse examiner, or SANE, coordinator. The statewide SANE coordinator
26 shall be trained as a SANE nurse in accordance with applicable national or statewide
27 guidelines and have at least two years of experience as a practicing SANE.

28 B. The duties of the statewide SANE coordinator shall include all of the
29 following:

1 (1) Developing, implementing, and overseeing a statewide strategic plan for
2 SANE services.

3 (2) Developing, implementing, and overseeing a plan to develop mobile
4 SANE teams across the state within the public health regions of the Louisiana
5 Department Health.

6 (3) Developing and maintaining standardized protocols, policies, and
7 procedures for sexual assault forensic examinations consistent with current best
8 practices as established by applicable accrediting bodies, the United States
9 Department of Justice, and other relevant authorities.

10 (4) Serving as a member of both the Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight
11 Commission as provided in R.S. 15:555 and the Sexual Assault Response Standards
12 Subcommittee as provided in R.S. 15:557.

13 (5) In conjunction with the Sexual Assault Response Standards
14 Subcommittee as provided in R.S. 15:557, establishing and overseeing the following:

15 (a) Mandatory initial and continuing training requirements for all SANE
16 nurses providing services in the state, ensuring that trauma-informed and
17 evidence-based protocols are integrated into all education and practice settings.

18 (b) A statewide preceptor network, aligned with existing and available best
19 practice guidelines from both national and state organizations.

20 (6) Maintaining a statewide database tracking SANE service utilization,
21 response times, and gaps in coverage.

22 (7) Conducting a statewide assessment of access to forensic medical
23 examinations and developing a statewide coverage plan within two years of the
24 assessment's completion to ensure twenty-four-hour access to services in every
25 parish.

26 (8) Serving as the primary point of contact and liaison between the
27 department and hospitals, healthcare facilities, Louisiana sexual assault centers,
28 children's advocacy centers, law enforcement, district attorneys, and other
29 stakeholders regarding SANE services. Any healthcare facility, sexual assault
30 center, children's advocacy center, law enforcement agency, child protective services

1 agency, or other entity involved in the administration, documentation, or handling
2 of sexual assault forensic examinations or the care of the survivor shall report
3 incidents involving procedural deviation, evidence compromise, or patient safety
4 concerns. The SANE coordinator shall develop, receive, and retain all incident
5 reports and ensure appropriate review, investigation, and system oversight.

6 (9) Facilitating annual meetings in all regions of the state to solicit the input
7 of interested stakeholders in the region, including but not limited to all of the
8 following:

9 (a) Any SANE programs within the region.

10 (b) The coroner for each parish within the region.

11 (c) The sheriff for each parish within the region.

12 (d) The chief of police for any political subdivision located within the region.

13 (e) All hospitals with an emergency department located within the region.

14 (f) First responder organizations located within the region.

15 (g) Higher education institutions located within the region.

16 (h) The school board for each parish located within the region.

17 (i) Sexual assault advocacy organizations and children's advocacy centers
18 providing services within the region.

19 (j) The district attorney for each parish within the region or his designee.

20 (k) Each crime lab located within the region.

21 (l) Any nursing school in the region.

22 (10) In addition to the reporting requirements provided in R.S. 15:624,
23 submitting an annual report to the governor, attorney general, the president of the
24 Senate, and the speaker of the House of Representatives that details program
25 activities, service utilization data, identified needs, and recommendations for
26 improvement.

27 (11) Applying for and administering federal grants, federal funding, and any
28 other available funding sources to support SANE services statewide.

29 (12) Performing any other duties as the attorney general may assign
30 consistent with the purposes of this Part.

1 §1228.5. TeleSANE training and mobile SANE program

2 A. The department shall establish and oversee a statewide teleSANE training
3 program and a mobile SANE program as managed within the public health regions
4 of the Louisiana Department of Health to provide forensic medical examination
5 support and forensic medical examinations for survivors of sexually oriented
6 criminal offenses.

7 B. Each mobile SANE nurse or team within each public health region shall
8 have the capacity to do all of the following:

9 (1) Be available on an on-call or scheduled basis to respond to requests for
10 SANE services within respective assigned regions on a twenty-four-hour,
11 seven-day-a-week basis.

12 (2) Respond to requests for service and arrive at the designated examination
13 site within a reasonable time, with a goal of responding within one hour of
14 notification for acute forensic medical examinations when possible.

15 (3) Coordinate with hospitals, law enforcement, Louisiana sexual assault
16 center advocates, children's advocacy centers, and other responders to ensure
17 trauma-informed, victim-centered care.

18 (4) Provide services at any appropriate location within the region including
19 but not limited to hospital emergency departments, outpatient clinics, parish health
20 units, Louisiana sexual assault centers, children's advocacy centers, and law
21 enforcement facilities as agreed upon by the relevant entities.

22 C. All sexual assault collection kits used in a forensic medical examination
23 shall meet the standards developed by the department in collaboration with the
24 Sexual Assault Response Standards Subcommittee.

25 §1228.6. Reports to law enforcement

26 A. A licensed hospital or healthcare provider shall adhere to the following
27 procedures if a person presents for treatment as a sexual assault survivor:

28 (1) The hospital shall contact its regional SANE program to request that a
29 SANE nurse or SANE team be dispatched to the hospital or other location to perform

1 a forensic medical examination in coordination with available advocacy
2 programming.

3 (2)(a) Except as provided in Subparagraphs (b) and (c) of this Paragraph, a
4 survivor shall decide whether or not to report the incident to law enforcement
5 officials. No SANE nurse, SANE team, hospital, or healthcare provider shall require
6 the survivor to report the incident to receive medical attention or collect evidence.

7 (b) If a person under the age of eighteen presents for treatment as a sexual
8 assault survivor, the SANE nurse, SANE team, hospital, or healthcare provider shall
9 immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency or any other official
10 necessary to fulfill any mandatory reporting obligation required by law.

11 (c) If a survivor is physically or mentally incapable of making the decision
12 to report, the hospital or healthcare provider shall immediately notify the appropriate
13 law enforcement officials.

14 (d) If the survivor wishes to report the incident to law enforcement, the
15 hospital, a healthcare provider, or the SANE examiner shall contact the appropriate
16 law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the location where the crime
17 occurred. If the location where the crime occurred cannot be determined, the
18 hospital or healthcare provider shall contact the law enforcement agency with
19 jurisdiction over the location where the forensic medical examination is performed
20 to determine the appropriate investigating agency.

21 B.(1) Any member of the hospital staff or a healthcare provider who, in good
22 faith, notifies the appropriate law enforcement official pursuant to Paragraph (A)(2)
23 of this Section is immune from any civil liability that otherwise could be incurred or
24 imposed because of the notification. The immunity extends to participation in any
25 judicial proceeding that results from the report.

26 (2) All reports made by the hospital or healthcare provider staff member
27 shall be made through the appropriate law enforcement agency dispatch. The
28 hospital or healthcare provider staff member shall obtain a file number and the
29 responding officer's name, and document the date, time, method of notification, and

1 the name of the official who received the notification to ensure compliance with this
2 Section.

3 §1228.7. Examination; advocate

4 A. Every sexual assault survivor shall be examined and treated by a qualified
5 healthcare provider, without undue delay, in a private space required to ensure the
6 health, safety, and welfare of the survivor. Examination and treatment, including the
7 forensic medical examination, shall be adapted as necessary to address the unique
8 needs and circumstances of each survivor. All survivors shall be afforded an
9 advocate whose communications are privileged in accordance with the provisions of
10 R.S. 46:2187, if one is available. With the consent of the survivor, an advocate shall
11 remain in the examination room during the forensic medical examination. With the
12 consent of the survivor, the examination and treatment of all sexual assault survivors
13 shall be in accordance with the Sexual Assault Survivor Bill of Rights as provided
14 in R.S. 46:1845.

15 B.(1) If the survivor does not wish to report the incident to law enforcement,
16 the SANE nurse or SANE team shall, upon completion of the forensic medical
17 examination, ensure the unreported sexual assault collection kit is not identified or
18 labeled with the survivor's identifying information and do either of the following:

19 (a) Contact the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the location
20 where the forensic medical examination was performed to transfer possession of the
21 unreported sexual assault collection kit for storage. The law enforcement agency
22 shall maintain all unreported sexual assault collection kits for a period of twenty
23 years.

24 (b) In a jurisdiction with a coroner-based SANE program that has the ability
25 to retain kits in accordance with evidentiary standards and proper chain of custody,
26 contact the coroner's office to transfer possession of the unreported sexual assault
27 collection kit for storage. The coroner shall maintain all unreported sexual assault
28 collection kits for a period of twenty years.

29 (2) No sexual assault collection kit shall remain at a hospital or medical
30 facility if the hospital or medical facility is unable to store the sexual assault

1 collection kit in a secure location that ensures proper chain of custody. If a hospital
2 or medical facility has a secure location that ensures proper chain of custody, the law
3 enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the location where the forensic medical
4 examination was performed shall take possession of the unreported sexual assault
5 collection kit within seventy-two hours upon notification of completion of the sexual
6 assault collection kit by the hospital or healthcare provider.

7 §1228.8. Prohibition on billing for forensic medical examination

8 A. No hospital, healthcare provider, nor the statewide SANE coordinator
9 shall directly bill a survivor of a sexually oriented criminal offense for any healthcare
10 services rendered in conducting a forensic medical examination, including the
11 healthcare services rendered in accordance with Paragraph (2) of this Subsection and
12 any of the following:

13 (1) Forensic examiner and hospital or healthcare facility services directly
14 related to the examination, including integral forensic supplies.

15 (2) Scope procedures directly related to the forensic medical examination,
16 including but not limited to anoscopy and colposcopy.

17 B. The provisions of this Section do not apply to either of the following:

18 (1) A healthcare provider billing for any medical services that are not
19 specifically set forth in this Section or provided for diagnosis or treatment of the
20 survivor for injuries related to the sexual assault.

21 (2) A survivor of a sexually oriented criminal offense seeking reparations in
22 accordance with the Crime Victims Reparations Act, R.S. 46:1801 et seq., for the
23 costs of any medical services that are not specifically set forth in this Section or
24 provided for the diagnosis or treatment of the survivor for injuries related to the
25 sexual assault.

26 C. The statewide SANE coordinator shall make available to every hospital
27 and healthcare provider licensed under the laws of this state a pamphlet containing
28 an explanation of the billing process for services rendered pursuant to this Section.
29 Every hospital and healthcare provider shall provide a copy of the pamphlet to any
30 person presented for treatment as a survivor of a sexually oriented criminal offense.

1 §1228.9. Hospital and healthcare provider standards

2 A. The procedures provided in this Part constitute the minimum standards
3 for the operation and maintenance of hospitals pursuant to this Part. Failure to
4 comply with these standards may constitute grounds for denial, suspension, or
5 revocation of the healthcare provider's license by the appropriate licensing board or
6 commission.

7 B. No hospital or healthcare provider shall refuse to examine or assist a
8 survivor on the grounds that the alleged offense occurred outside of or the survivor
9 is not a resident of the jurisdiction.

10 §1228.10. Reproduction of certain records

11 A. Upon request of a competent adult survivor of a sexually oriented
12 criminal offense, the healthcare provider that performed the forensic medical
13 examination shall provide a reproduction of any written documentation resulting
14 from the forensic medical examination of the survivor that is in the possession of the
15 healthcare provider. The documentation shall be provided to the survivor no later
16 than fourteen days after the healthcare provider receives the request or the healthcare
17 provider completes the documentation, whichever is later.

18 B. The reproduction of written documentation described in this Section shall
19 be made available at no cost to the survivor and may only be released at the direction
20 of the survivor who is a competent adult. The release of this documentation to the
21 survivor does not invalidate the survivor's reasonable expectation of privacy nor does
22 it become a public record.

23 §1228.11. Coordination with other state agencies and organizations

24 A. The statewide SANE coordinator and the mobile SANE nurse program
25 within each public health region of the Louisiana Department of Health shall
26 coordinate with the following state agencies and organizations as follows:

27 (1) The Louisiana State Police Crime Laboratory and the Bo Duhe Acadiana
28 Criminalistics Laboratory regarding sexual assault evidence kit standards, storage,
29 and processing.

1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 2 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HB Draft

2026 Regular Session

Abstract: Creates a statewide Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Coordinator.

Present law (R.S. 15:555) provides for the membership of the La. Sexual Assault Oversight Commission.

Proposed law retains present law and adds the statewide sexual assault nurse examiner, or SANE, coordinator or his designee as a member.

Proposed law establishes the Sexual Assault Response Standards Subcommittee as a subcommittee of the La Sexual Assault Oversight Commission and provides for the subcommittee's duties, membership, meetings, and procedures.

Present law (R.S. 15:624) provides for sexually oriented criminal offense data.

Proposed law retains present law and adds the statewide Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) coordinator within the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) as a recipient of the report.

Proposed law requires each LDH regional medical director submit their regional sexual assault response plan to the chief medical officer within the LDH, office of public health, and the statewide SANE coordinator with inclusion of identified regional gaps of access to forensic medical examinations by Feb. 15th of each year.

Proposed law requires the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice (LCLE) submit its grants and expenditures towards SANE services within each LDH region from the previous year to the statewide SANE coordinator by Feb. 15th of each year.

Proposed law shall be known and may be cited as the "Services For Survivors of Sexually Oriented Criminal Offenses Access Act".

Proposed law provides for a statement of legislative findings and purpose.

Proposed law defines the terms "department," "forensic medical examination", "healthcare provider", "healthcare services", "sexual assault collection kit", "sexually oriented criminal offense", "Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner" or "SANE", and "unreported sexual assault collection kit".

Proposed law provides for the creation of the statewide SANE coordinator within the La. Dept. of Justice, requires training and minimum experience of the coordinator as a SANE nurse in accordance with applicable national or statewide guidelines, and provides for duties of the coordinator.

Proposed law provides for the establishment and oversight of a statewide teleSANE training program and a mobile SANE program as managed within the public health regions of the LDH to provide forensic medical examination support and forensic medical exams for

survivors of sexually oriented criminal offenses and provides for duties of the mobile SANE nurse or team.

Proposed law requires all sexual assault collection kits used in a forensic medical examination to meet the standards developed by the La. Dept. of Justice in collaboration with the Sexual Assault Response Standards Subcommittee.

Proposed law provides for procedures that a licensed hospital or healthcare provider is to adhere to if a person presents for treatment as a sexual assault survivor.

Proposed law provides for a limitation of liability for any member of the hospital staff or a healthcare provider who, in good faith, notifies the appropriate law enforcement official.

Proposed law provides for notification procedures and requires all reports by the hospital or healthcare provider staff member be made through the appropriate law enforcement agency dispatch. Further requires the hospital or healthcare provider staff member to obtain a file number and the responding officer's name, documenting the date, time, method of notification, and the name of the official who received the notification in order to comply with proposed law.

Proposed law provides relative to the examination of every sexual assault survivor pursuant to the Sexual Assault Survivors Bill of Rights, provides for adaptation of the examination and treatment, and provides for the opportunity to be afforded an advocate with privileged communications and who is to remain present during the examination.

Proposed law provides for the transfer, storage, maintenance, and disposal procedures governing sexual assault collection kits.

Proposed law prohibits billing any survivor of a sexually oriented criminal offense for any healthcare services rendered in conducting a forensic medical examination.

Proposed law does not apply to either of the following:

- (1) A healthcare provider billing for any medical services that are not specifically set forth in proposed law or provided for diagnosis or treatment of the survivor for injuries related to the sexual assault.
- (2) A survivor of a sexually oriented criminal offense seeking reparations in accordance with the present law (R.S. 46:1801 et seq.), for the costs for any medical services that are not specifically set forth in proposed law or provided for the diagnosis or treatment of the survivor for injuries related to the sexual assault.

Proposed law requires the statewide SANE coordinator to make available to every hospital and healthcare provider a pamphlet containing an explanation of the billing process for services rendered pursuant to proposed law and requires every hospital and healthcare provider to provide a copy of the pamphlet to any person presented for treatment as a survivor of a sexually oriented criminal offense.

Proposed law constitutes the minimum standards for the operation and maintenance of hospitals pursuant to proposed law. Further provides that failure to comply with these standards may constitute grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of the healthcare provider's license by the appropriate licensing board or commission.

Proposed law prohibits any hospital or healthcare provider from refusing to examine and assist a survivor on the grounds that the alleged offense occurred outside of or the survivor is not a resident of the jurisdiction.

Proposed law provides for the submission of a reproduction of any written documentation resulting from the forensic medical exam of the survivor no later than 14 days after the

healthcare provider receives the request or the healthcare provider completes the documentation, whichever is later.

Proposed law provides that the reproduction of written documentation shall be made available at no cost to the survivor and may only be released at the direction of the survivor who is a competent adult. Further provides that the release of this documentation to the survivor does not invalidate the survivor's reasonable expectation of privacy and is not a public record.

Proposed law provides for coordination between the statewide SANE coordinator and the mobile SANE nurse program with certain state agencies and organizations.

Proposed law provides for duties of the La. Dept. of Justice and LDH relative to memorandums of understanding.

Present law (R.S. 44:4.1) provides for public records exceptions.

Proposed law amends present law to add a cross-reference to the public records exception contained in proposed law relative to reproduction of written documentation of a forensic medical examination that is provided to a survivor.

Present law (R.S. 40:1216.1) provides for procedures for survivors of a sexually oriented criminal offense, immunity, regional plans, maximum allowable costs, definitions, and documents requested by victim.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 15:624(A)(1)(intro. para.) and (B)-(D); Adds R.S. 15:555(A)(18), 557, and 624(E) and (F) and R.S. 40:1228.1-1228.10; Repeals R.S. 40:1216.1)