

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 39

2026 Regular Session

Firment

LAW ENFORCE/OFFICERS: Requires peace officers to be citizens of the United States.

DIGEST

Present law provides for qualifications, requirements, and training requirements for all peace officers in the state of La.

Present law defines a "peace officer" as any employee of the state, a municipality, a sheriff, or other public agency, whose permanent duties actually include the making of arrests, the performing of searches and seizures, or the execution of criminal warrants, and is responsible for the prevention or detection of crime or for the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or highway laws of this state, but not including any elected or appointed head of a law enforcement department.

Proposed law retains present law, but adds an additional requirement that a peace be a United States citizen.

Proposed law defines "United States citizen" as any individual who is a citizen of the U.S. by law, birth, or naturalization.

(Amends R.S. 40:2402(3)(a); adds R.S. 40:2402(5))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

1. Exclude current peace officers from the requirement to be current U.S. citizens if they are lawful permanent residents of the U.S. who become citizens no later than Aug. 1, 2031.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the engrossed bill

1. Adds definition of "United States citizen".
2. Remove provision excluding current peace officers who are lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the U.S. from proposed law if such peace officers become citizens no later than Aug. 1, 2031.