

**ACT No. 619**

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 137

BY REPRESENTATIVES MIKE JOHNSON AND CARLSON

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 14:40.1(A)(1), R.S. 15:951(E), and Children's Code Article 897.1(D) through (G) and to enact R.S. 14:40.1(A)(3) and (B)(3), 92.2(A)(2)(g), (h), (i), and (j), R.S. 17:416.20.1 and 3996(B)(92), and Children's Code Article 897.1(H) and (I), relative to the crimes of terrorizing and menacing; to provide for penalties when the communication is directed toward a school; to provide relative to offenders under the age of eighteen; to require school dissemination of certain information; to provide relative to disposition after adjudication of certain felony-grade delinquent acts; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:40.1(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 14:40.1(A)(3) and (B)(3) and 92.2(A)(2)(g), (h), (i), and (j) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§40.1. Terrorizing; menacing

A.(1) Terrorizing is the intentional communication of information that the commission of a crime of violence, as defined in R.S. 14:2(B), is imminent or in progress or that a circumstance dangerous to human life exists or is about to exist, with the intent of causing members of the general public to be in sustained fear for their safety; or causing evacuation of a building, a public structure, or a facility of transportation; or causing other serious disruption to the general public.

\* \* \*

(3) Whoever commits the offense of terrorizing a school property, a school-sponsored function, or a firearm-free zone shall be fined not more than fifteen thousand dollars or imprisoned at hard labor for not less than five nor more than

1           fifteen years without the benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence, or  
2           both.

3   \*       \*       \*

4                                   B.

5   \*       \*       \*

6                           (3) Whoever commits the offense of menacing a school property, a school-  
7                           sponsored function, or a firearm-free zone shall be fined not more than one thousand  
8                           dollars or imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less than two years nor more  
9                           than five years, or both.

10   \*       \*       \*

11           §92.2. Improper supervision of a minor by parent or legal custodian

12                           A. Improper supervision of a minor by a parent or legal custodian, who has  
13                           care and control of the minor, includes any of the following:

14   \*       \*       \*

15                           (2) Through criminal negligence, or knowingly or willfully, permitting the  
16                           minor to do any of the following:

17   \*       \*       \*

18                           (g) Terrorize or menace a school in violation of R.S. 14:40.1.

19                           (h) Communicate false information of a planned bombing on school property  
20                           in violation of R.S. 14:54.6.

21                           (i) Regularly participate or engage in any crime of violence.

22                           (j) Violate the terms or conditions of supervised release or the terms or  
23                           conditions of juvenile probation or parole.

24   \*       \*       \*

25           Section 2. R.S. 15:951(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

26           §951. Back on Track Youth Pilot Program

27   \*       \*       \*

28                           E. For the purposes of this Section, "youth or youths" ~~shall mean~~ means a  
29                           person who has attained at least ~~sixteen~~ fourteen years of age and not more than  
30                           twenty-four years of age.

1 Section 3. R.S. 17:416.20.1 and 3996(B)(92) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

2 §416.20.1. Information; terrorizing; Louisiana Department of Education; public  
3 school distribution

4 A. The principal of each public school shall disseminate information during  
5 the first five days of each school year to each student grades six and above regarding  
6 the crime and consequences of terrorizing or menacing a school property, a school-  
7 sponsored function, or a firearm-free zone as provided in R.S. 14:95.6. This  
8 information may be incorporated into an existing orientation program. In addition  
9 to each student, the information shall be provided to each student's parent or legal  
10 guardian on a written form containing a signature line for each student's parent or  
11 legal guardian to sign to acknowledge receipt and understanding of the information,  
12 which the parent or legal guardian shall return to the school. The information  
13 required by this Section shall be age and grade appropriate and shall give full  
14 consideration as to whether the student is in a regular or special program of  
15 education.

16 B. The Louisiana Department of Education shall develop the information  
17 prescribed by this Section and provide it to each public school governing authority,  
18 which shall disseminate it to each principal for this purpose.

19 \* \* \*

20 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

21 \* \* \*

22 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and  
23 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a  
24 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this  
25 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be  
26 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are  
27 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for  
28 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

29 \* \* \*

1                    (92) Information relative to terrorizing or menacing a school property, a  
2                    school-sponsored function, or a firearm-free zone, R.S. 17:416.20.1.

3                    \*           \*           \*

4                    Section 4. Children's Code Article 897.1(D) through (G) are hereby amended and  
5 reenacted and Children's Code Article 897.1(H) and (I) are hereby enacted to read as  
6 follows:

7                    Art. 897.1. Disposition after adjudication of certain felony-grade delinquent acts

8                    \*           \*           \*

9                    D.(1)(a) After adjudication of a felony-grade delinquent act based upon a  
10                    violation of R.S. 14:40.1 or R.S. 14:54.6, the court shall order the child who is  
11                    fourteen years of age or older at the time of the commission of the offense to any or  
12                    all of the following:

13                    (i) A mental examination, if one has not already been conducted pursuant to  
14                    R.S. 17:409.5.

15                    (ii) Up to twelve months probation or no more than six months commitment  
16                    in a juvenile detention facility pursuant to Children's Code Article 898.

17                    (iii) Participation in the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program as provided in  
18                    R.S. 15:951.

19                    (b) After adjudication of a felony-grade delinquent act based upon a  
20                    violation of R.S. 14:40.1 or R.S. 14:54.6, the parent, custodian, or other legal  
21                    guardian of the child shall be subject to a civil fine of up to five thousand dollars.

22                    (2)(a) After a second or subsequent adjudication of a felony-grade delinquent  
23                    act based upon a violation of R.S. 14:40.1 or R.S. 14:54.6, the court shall order the  
24                    child who is fourteen years of age or older at the time of the commission of the  
25                    offense to any or all of the following:

26                    (i) A mental examination, if one has not already been conducted pursuant to  
27                    R.S. 17:409.5.

28                    (ii) Up to eighteen months probation or no more nine months commitment  
29                    in a juvenile detention facility.

1                    (iii) Participation in the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program as provided in  
 2                    R.S. 15:951.

3                    (b) After adjudication of a felony-grade delinquent act based upon a second  
 4                    or subsequent violation of R.S. 14:40.1 or R.S. 14:54.6, the parent, custodian, or  
 5                    other legal guardian shall be subject to a civil fine of not less than five thousand  
 6                    dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars.

7                    E.(1) In addition to the dispositions provided in Paragraph D of this Article,  
 8                    the court shall conduct a hearing in accordance with Code of Criminal Procedure  
 9                    Article 875.1 to make a determination regarding the financial ability of the child's  
 10                   parent, legal guardian, or other person who is financially responsible for the care of  
 11                   the child to reimburse the responding agency, local municipality, sheriff's  
 12                   department, or any other governmental agency or political subdivision for all  
 13                   incurred costs pertaining to the response, prosecution, or any other activities that  
 14                   result from a violation of R.S. 14:40.1 or R.S. 14:54.6.

15                   (2) If the court determines that payment in full of the aggregate amount of  
 16                   all financial obligations imposed upon the child's parent, legal guardian, or other  
 17                   person who is financially responsible for the care of the child would not cause  
 18                   substantial financial hardship, the court shall order the person to reimburse the entity  
 19                   described in Subparagraph (E)(1) of this Article.

20                   ~~D. F.~~ Juveniles confined in secure placement for an adjudication as set forth  
 21                   in Paragraph C of this Article shall be eligible for modification after serving  
 22                   twenty-four months of the disposition or if the disposition is less than thirty-six  
 23                   months, one-half of the disposition.

24                   ~~E. G.~~ A motion for modification of a disposition shall be filed pursuant to  
 25                   Article 910 et seq. and a contradictory hearing shall be set no sooner than thirty days  
 26                   from the date of notice to the district attorney. To grant a motion for modification  
 27                   of disposition, the court ~~must~~ shall find that the child poses a reduced risk to the  
 28                   community based on the following considerations:

- 29                   (1) The child has a favorable progress report from the placement facility.
- 30                   (2) The child meets one of the following work or self-improvement criteria:

1 (a) Has attained a high school diploma or equivalent.

2 (b) Is actively participating in workforce training or a certification program  
3 and is in good standing as evidenced by grades and behavior notes submitted by the  
4 child's instructors.

5 (3) The child has obtained a low-risk designation as determined by a valid  
6 risk assessment procedure approved by the office of juvenile justice.

7 (4) The recommendation of the office of juvenile justice.

8 (5) A reentry plan that includes an appropriate placement to conduct  
9 supervision and achieve aftercare goals.

10 (6) Any additional evidence provided by the child, the state, or the office of  
11 juvenile justice.

12 F. H. At least six months prior to the release of the child, the department  
13 shall prepare an individualized and thorough transitional plan that identifies the  
14 techniques, programs, personnel, and facilities that will be used to assist the child in  
15 achieving a successful return to his family and the community. A copy of the  
16 transitional plan shall be mailed to the court that ordered the disposition of  
17 commitment.

18 ~~G. I.~~ The provisions of this Article shall apply to all children in the custody  
19 of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of juvenile justice, on or  
20 after August 1, 2018.

21 Section 5. This Act shall be known and may be cited as "The School Threat  
Accountability and Safety Act".

\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_