

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 804 (HB 429)

2026 Regular Session

Jacob Landry

Existing law provides for the crimes of unauthorized entry of a critical infrastructure (R.S. 14:61) and theft of critical infrastructure (R.S. 14:67.24).

Prior law (R.S. 14:67.24) provided penalties for theft of critical infrastructure as follows:

- (1) A fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than 15 years, or both, when the value of the stolen property was less than \$25,000.
- (2) A fine of not more than \$50,000 or imprisonment at hard labor for not more than 20 years, or both, when the value of the stolen property was \$25,000 or more.
- (3) A fine of not more than \$50,000 or imprisonment at hard labor for not more than 20 years, or both, when it was foreseeable that human life would be threatened as a result of the theft.

New law repeals the penalty provisions of prior law so that all convictions for theft of critical infrastructure carry a fine of not more than \$50,000 or imprisonment at hard labor for not more than 20 years, or both.

New law provides that flying drones over critical infrastructure or hacking electronics of critical infrastructure constitutes unauthorized entry.

Existing law defines "critical infrastructure".

New law adds oil and natural gas drilling operations and equipment and public drinking water systems to the definition of critical infrastructure.

Existing law provides for crimes that, when committed with the intent to intimidate or coerce the civilian population or influence a government entity by intimidation or coercion, qualify as terrorism.

New law adds unauthorized entry of critical infrastructure and theft of critical infrastructure as crimes that, with the requisite intent, qualify as terrorism.

New law requires any person who commits terrorism by theft or unauthorized entry of a critical infrastructure to be imprisoned at hard labor for not less than five years nor more than 20 years.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 14:61(A)(1) and (4) and (B)(intro. para.) and (1)(a)(iii) and 67.24(C); Adds R.S. 14:61(A)(5) and (6) and (B)(1)(a)(viii) and (c) and 128.1(A)(6) and (B)(6))