

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 544

BY REPRESENTATIVE ADAMS

FIRE PROTECTION: Provides penalties for fire prevention interference

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:206, relative to the crime of fire prevention interference; to
3 add elements to the crime; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 14:206 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §206. Fire prevention interference; penalty

7 A. Fire prevention interference is the intentional performance of any of the
8 following acts:

9 (1) Defacing or destroying fire warning notices or posters.

10 (2) Injuring, destroying, removing or in any manner interfering with the use
11 of any tools, equipment, towers, buildings, ~~or~~ telephone lines, or life safety systems
12 and equipment as defined in R.S. 40:1646(C), used in the detection, reporting or
13 suppression of fire.

14 (3) Obstructing exits, impeding egress, or exceeding the capacity or posted
15 occupant load of a building or structure.

16 (4) Unauthorized use or proximate display as defined in R.S. 51:650(9), of
17 fireworks in a building or structure.

18 B. Whoever commits the crime of fire prevention interference shall be fined
19 not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for a period of not more than six
20 months, or both.

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)]

Adams

HB No. 544

Abstract: Adds additional elements to the crime of fire prevention interference.

Present law provides that fire prevention interference is the intentional performance of any of the following acts:

- (1) Defacing or destroying fire warning notices or posters.
- (2) Injuring, destroying, removing, or in any manner interfering with the use of any tools, equipment, towers, buildings, or telephone lines used in the detection, reporting, or suppression of fire.

Proposed law retains the provisions of present law and adds life safety systems to the definition of the crime and additionally adds the following two elements:

- (1) Obstructing exits, impeding egress, or exceeding the capacity or posted occupant load of a building or structure.
- (2) Unauthorized use or proximate display as defined in R.S. 51:650(9), of fireworks in a building or structure.

(Amends R.S. 14:206)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill.

1. Changes proposed law addition of "life systems" to "life safety systems" in the elements of the crime.