

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

**ACT 184 (HB 953)**

**2016 Regular Session**

**Lance Harris**

Existing law defines hate crimes as certain enumerated criminal offenses in which the victim is selected because of that person's actual or perceived race, age, gender, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, creed, sexual orientation, or organizational affiliation.

New law retains existing law and adds that the crime shall also be defined as a hate crime if the victim is selected based upon their actual or perceived employment as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical services personnel. Defines "emergency medical services personnel", "firefighter", and "law enforcement officer".

Existing law provides the following penalties for hate crimes:

- (1) If the underlying offense is a misdemeanor, and the victim is selected in the proscribed manner, the offender may receive an additional consecutive sentence of imprisonment for not more than six months, a fine of not more than \$500, or both.
- (2) If the underlying offense is a felony, and the victim is selected in the proscribed manner, the offender may receive an additional consecutive sentence of imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than five years, a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both.

New law retains these existing law penalties.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 14:107.2(A); Adds R.S. 14:107.2(E))