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## DIGEST

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HB 27 Reengrossed

2017 Regular Session

Connick

**Abstract:** Amends the definition of "household member" for purposes of domestic abuse assistance and application of certain domestic abuse offenses to include all persons presently or formerly living in the same residence and who are or were involved in a sexual or intimate relationship.

Present law (R.S. 14:35.3) defines the crime of domestic abuse battery as the intentional use of force or violence committed by one household member or family member upon the person of another household member or family member.

Present law (R.S. 14:37.7) defines the crime of domestic abuse aggravated assault as an assault with a dangerous weapon committed by one household member or family member upon another household member or family member.

Present law provides for the issuance of temporary restraining orders, protective orders, and other assistance under the Protection From Family Violence Act for victims of domestic abuse committed by one family member or household member against another family member or household member.

For purposes of present law, "household member" is defined as any person of the opposite sex presently or formerly living in the same residence with the defendant as a spouse, whether married or not.

For purposes of eligibility for domestic abuse assistance and the application of domestic abuse battery and domestic abuse aggravated assault, proposed law amends the present law definition of "household member" as follows:

- (1) Removes the requirement that the persons be of the opposite sex.
- (2) Removes the requirement that the persons were formerly or presently living together as spouses, whether married or not.
- (3) Adds the requirement that the persons are presently or formerly involved in a sexual or intimate relationship.

(Amends R.S. 14:35.3(B)(5) and 37.7(B)(2) and R.S. 46:2132(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Amend the definition of "household member" to remove the requirement that the persons that were formerly or presently living together as spouses, whether married or not, and instead require the persons to be presently or formerly involved in a sexual or intimate relationship.