## **DIGEST**

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HB 173 Original

2024 Regular Session

Fontenot

**Abstract:** Creates the crime of approaching a law enforcement officer who is lawfully engaged in his law enforcement duties and provides for penalties.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that no person shall knowingly or intentionally approach within 25 feet of a law enforcement officer who is lawfully engaged in the execution of his official duties after the law enforcement officer has ordered a person to stop approaching or to retreat.

<u>Proposed law</u> defines "law enforcement officer" as any commissioned police officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, marshal, deputy marshal, correctional officer, probation and parole officer, constable, wildlife enforcement agent, livestock brand inspector, forestry officer, or state park warden.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that it shall be an affirmative defense to this crime if the defendant can establish that the lawful order or command was neither received nor understood by the defendant nor capable of being received or understood under the conditions and circumstances that existed at the time of the issuance of the order.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for a fine of not more than \$500, imprisonment for not more than 60 days, or both.

(Adds R.S. 14:109)