

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 127

2024 Regular Session

Bayham

CRIMINAL/PENALTIES: Provides relative to the penalties for the crime of simple obstruction of a highway of commerce

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Changes the phrase from "coordination, organization, or planning" to "conspiracy or aiding and abetting" within the elements of proposed law.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law provides that the crime of simple obstruction of a highway of commerce is the intentional or criminally negligent placing of anything or performance of any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which will render movement thereon more difficult.

Present law further provides for penalties consisting of a fine of not more than \$200, imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

Proposed law amends present law to define the crime of simple obstruction of a highway of commerce as either of the following when done in an intentional or criminally negligent manner:

- (1) The placing of anything or the performance of any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which will render movement thereon more difficult.
- (2) The conspiracy or aiding and abetting of other individuals to commit the placing of anything or the performance of any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which will render movement thereon more difficult.

Proposed law amends present law to change the penalty to a fine of \$750, imprisonment for not more than six months, or both, for either of the following:

- (1) Any person who places anything or performs any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which will render movement thereon more difficult.
- (2) Any person who plans the placement of anything or performance of any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which will render movement thereon more difficult.

Proposed law shall not apply to an employee or contractor of any public utility or a provider of electric utility services, communications, telecommunications, video, or information services, to the extent that the employee or contractor is acting on behalf of such entity in a road, highway, or thoroughfare.

(Amends R.S. 14:97)