

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 76

BY REPRESENTATIVE MANDIE LANDRY

CORRECTIONS/PRISONERS: Provides relative to notification of inmates released from a parish prison or jail

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:715(C) and to enact R.S. 15:715(D), relative to notification
3 of releases from parish prisons or jails; to provide for notification of improperly
4 released inmates; to provide for a definition; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 15:715(C) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 15:715(D) is
7 hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §715. Reporting of escapes or improper releases from parish prison facilities ~~and~~ or
9 jails

10 * * *

11 C. The sheriff, the highest ranking employee of the sheriff's office, or the
12 person acting on behalf of the sheriff who is physically present at and in charge of
13 the parish prison or jail at the time of the improper release of an inmate from that
14 facility shall immediately notify or take necessary steps to ensure that notification
15 of the improper release is provided to all of the following:

16 (1) The appropriate law enforcement agency.

17 (2) The victim of the crime for which the inmate was imprisoned.

18 (3) Any known witness, regardless if he testified against the inmate in any
19 court proceeding involving the offense.

20 (4) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting district attorney.

1 ~~€~~ D. As used in this Section, the following terms have the following
2 meanings:

3 (1) "Improper release" means the discharge of an inmate from a parish prison
4 or jail through circumstances that include but are not limited to administrative or
5 clerical error, mismanagement of the prison or jail, or mistake of staff.

6 ~~(1)~~ (2) "Law enforcement agency" means the Department of Public Safety
7 and Corrections, office of public safety services and office of state police, and all
8 police departments in the parish.

9 ~~(2)~~ (3) "Local media outlet" means a local news service, including but not
10 limited to a print, broadcast, or online platform.

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)]

HB 76 Original

2026 Regular Session

Mandie Landry

Abstract: Requires notification when an inmate is improperly released from a parish prison facility or jail.

Present law (R.S. 15:715) provides for the reporting of escapes from parish prison facilities or jails.

Proposed law generally retains present law and adds a notification requirement for inmates who are improperly released.

Proposed law provides that the sheriff, the highest ranking employee of the sheriff's office, or the person acting on behalf of the sheriff who is physically present at and in charge of the parish prison or jail at the time of the improper release of an inmate from that facility shall immediately notify or take necessary steps to ensure that notification of the improper release is provided to all of the following:

- (1) The appropriate law enforcement agency.
- (2) The victim of the crime for which the inmate was imprisoned.
- (3) Any known witness, regardless of whether he testified against the inmate in any court proceeding involving the offense.
- (4) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting district attorney.

Present law provides for definitions.

Proposed law retains present law and defines the term "improper release".

(Amends R.S. 15:715(C); Adds R.S. 15:715(D))