

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 995

BY REPRESENTATIVES LACOMBE, JACKSON, MIKE JOHNSON, MARTINEZ,
SPELL, AND THOMPSON

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Children's Code Article 327(C) and to enact R.S. 15:440.5(D) and
3 Children's Code Article 327(D), relative to videotaped statements of protected
4 persons; to provide relative to accessibility; to provide for limitations; to provide
5 relative to the production of videotaped statements at trial; and to provide for related
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 15:440.5(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §440.5. Admissibility of videotaped statements; discovery by defendant

10 * * *

11 D. Any requirement that a copy of a videotaped statement of a protected
12 person be provided to a criminal defendant's attorney, to a court, or to any other
13 person entitled by law to such a copy may be satisfied by providing electronic access
14 to view the videotaped statement in a manner that is sufficient to protect the rights
15 of the criminal defendant under the United States Constitution and Louisiana
16 Constitution. This Subsection does not permit any of the following:

17 (1) The authorization of a pro se criminal defendant to electronically access
18 a copy of a videotaped statement of a protected person.

19 (2) The negation or circumvention of any requirement that a physical copy
20 of the videotaped statement of a protected person be produced at a criminal trial

