

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**

House Bill No. 285 by Representative Dixon

CRIMINAL/PROCEDURE: Increases the amount of monetary compensation for wrongful convictions

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Decreases maximum total award from \$500,000 to \$250,000.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Present law provides for compensation for wrongfully convicted persons.

Present law provides that compensation shall be calculated at a rate of \$15,000 per year of incarceration, not to exceed a total of \$150,000.

Proposed law changes present law from \$15,000 per year to \$25,000 per year and from \$150,000 total to \$250,000 for physical harm and injury suffered by the petitioner to be paid at a rate of \$25,000 annually.

Present law provides that the petitioner shall be compensated \$40,000 for the loss of life opportunities.

Proposed law changes the amount of compensation for loss of life opportunities in present law from \$40,000 to \$80,000.

Present law provides that the Innocence Compensation Fund shall pay for the costs of job-skills training for one year and for the appropriate medical and counseling services for three years.

Proposed law provides that the Innocence Compensation Fund shall pay for the costs of job-skills training for three years and for the appropriate medical and counseling services for six years.

Proposed law provides that any petitioner who has been awarded compensation by the court on or after Sept. 1, 2005, and prior to Sept. 1, 2011, may file a petition seeking supplemental compensation. The petitioner shall file a petition seeking supplemental compensation on or before Sept. 1, 2012, or be forever barred from filing a supplemental petition.

Effective September 1, 2011.

(Amends R.S. 15:572.8(H)(2)(intro. para.), (a), and (b); Adds R.S. 15:572.8(Q))