Existing law provides that it shall be unlawful for convicted sex offenders to fail to comply with certain registration and notification requirements, including but not limited to registering with local law enforcement, periodically renewing and updating registration information, providing proof of residence or notification of change of address or other registration information, and providing community notification.

Existing law (R.S. 32:412(I)) provides that a driver's license issued to any person required to register as a sex offender shall contain a restriction code which declares that the license holder is a sex offender, and further provides that the sex offender shall carry upon his person the last driver's license issued to him and shall personally appear at a motor vehicle field office to renew his driver's license every year.

Existing law (R.S. 40:1321(J)) provides that any person required to register as a sex offender shall obtain a special identification card issued by DPS&C which shall contain a restriction code declaring that the holder is a sex offender, and further provides that the sex offender shall carry this card upon his person at all times and shall personally appear, annually, at a field office of the office of motor vehicles to renew his special identification card.

New law provides that it shall constitute a failure to register pursuant to the provisions of existing law (R.S. 15:542.1.4) when any sex offender either fails to comply with these provisions of existing law (R.S. 32:412(I) and R.S. 40:1321(J)), possesses a document required by these provisions of existing law that has been altered with the intent to defraud, or possesses a counterfeit of any document required by these provisions of existing law.

New law provides the following criminal penalties:

(1) Upon a first conviction, the offender shall be fined not more than $1,000 and imprisoned at hard labor for not less than two nor more than 10 years without benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence.

(2) Upon a second or subsequent conviction, the offender shall be fined $3,000 and imprisoned at hard labor for not less than five years nor more than 20 years without benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence.

Effective August 15, 2011.

(Adds R.S. 15:542.1.4(C))