
DIGEST

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Katrina Jackson

HB No. 457

Abstract: Extends the time period in which an application for crime victims reparations shall be filed for certain applicants, and requires notification to crime victims of potential eligibility for such reparations.

Present law provides that an application for reparations shall be filed in writing with the board within one year after the date of the personal injury, death, or catastrophic property loss or within such longer period as the board determines is justified by the circumstances.

Proposed law retains present law, but provides that an application filed by a dependent or legal representative of a deceased victim of a homicide offense, or filed by a claimant as defined in present law, shall be filed within five years after the date on which the judgment of conviction becomes final or within five years after the date on which the supreme court denies the defendant's first application for appeal. Proposed law further provides that when the death of the perpetrator occurs prior to a conviction for the homicide offense, the application shall be filed within five years after the date of the death of the perpetrator.

Proposed law requires the judge, during the sentencing for a crime, to inform the victim of the crime of the potential eligibility for an award of reparations and further requires the judge to provide the contact information for the Crime Victims Reparations Board.

(Amends R.S. 46:1804 and 1806(A))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Added provision which states that when the death of the perpetrator occurs prior to a conviction for the homicide offense, the application shall be filed within five years after the date of the death of the perpetrator.
2. Added provision which requires the court to inform the victim of the crime of the potential eligibility for an award of reparations.