The original instrument was prepared by Jerry G. Jones. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Ann S. Brown.

DIGEST

Claitor (SB 268)

Present law provides relative to civil liability for theft of goods from a merchant.

<u>Present law</u> provides that any person who unlawfully takes merchandise from a merchant's premises shall be liable to the merchant for the retail value of the merchandise taken, if not recovered in merchantable condition, plus damages of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500.

<u>Present law</u> also provides that its provisions shall not be construed to prohibit or limit any other cause of action which a merchant may have against a person who unlawfully takes merchandise from the merchant's premises.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and further provides that any damages awarded in a civil action shall be reduced by the amount recovered from the offender as restitution to the merchant as a condition of sentence in the criminal case.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 9:2799.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Provides for reduction of damages in the civil action when restitution by the offender is a condition of sentence, in the criminal case.