

Every year, the Louisiana Legislature proposes and passes numerous crime-related bills into law. These bills impact each and every one of us, yet often times these bills pass with little to no public awareness or input.

In an effort to help further public awareness, this Office has compiled a list of many of the prefiled 2008 House and Senate bills that impact some aspect of our criminal justice system. Each bill's identifying number along with a brief synopsis has been included.

For further information about a particular bill, please go to www.legis.state.la.us, which allows you to both view the complete bills and track them throughout the legislative process.

To express your opinion or concern about any bill, please contact your local legislator.

PROPOSED LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE BILLS FOR 2008

HOUSE BILLS

HB 7- Amends felon in possession of a firearm to a minimum sentence of 25 years w/o benefit. (25-40 years is range).

HB 23- No longer makes bail mandatory for a person arrested and awaiting extradition.

HB 24- Creates crime of harboring and illegal alien (the standard is knowing or reckless disregard).

HB 25- Enact a statute that requires police officers (PO) to attempt to determine the citizenship of persons arrested.

HB 26- Creates the crime of transporting an illegal alien.

HB 28- A person arrested for crime of violence (COV) cannot be released on own recognizance.

HB 31- Limits certain elected officials authority to pardon people for violating municipal ordinances.

HB 33- Adds running a stop sign or traffic signal to the aggravated flight statute.

HB- 36- Creates the crime of displaying noose w/ intent to intimidate.

HB 39- Adds battery of a PO or a correctional facility employee to the list of COV's.

HB 40- Adds definition of "sexual intercourse" to prostitution statute.

HB 44- Creates the crime of criminal damage to rental property (a misdemeanor or felony depending on value).

HB 45- Adds penalty provisions for witness intimidation in a criminal proceeding, increased penalties where certain crimes are involved.

HB 67- Allows for military service in lieu of prison for controlled dangerous substance (CDS) violations. DA has to concur and a list of qualifications must be met.

HB 68- Assault Weapons Protection Act- Series of statutes aimed at banning assault weapons in Louisiana.

HB 72- Statute that bans selling knives in convenience stores.

HB 73- Creates the crime of supplying a felon w/ ammunition.

HB 77- Creates the crime of manufacture, distribution of fraudulent ID information.

HB 78- Creates the crime of unlawful possession of an assault weapon for certain offenders.

HB 96- Creates the crime of home invasion. Stiffer penalties than some burglaries.

HB 101- Amends malfeasance in office penalties.

HB 107- Revokes bail in certain cases for failure to appear.

HB 110- Adds no parole eligibility to armed robbery.

HB 121- Changes the good time computation from 30 to 35 days per month.

HB 137- Creates the crime for possessing a fraudulent ID.

HB 146- Allows inmates to attend PCR hearings through visual technology.

HB 148- Adds purchasing, distributing CDSs in the presence of a minor to the list of cruelty to juveniles.

HB 162- Sex offender registration may be waived for certain offenses after contradictory hearing.

HB 163- Creates a criminal damage to property using graffiti statute.

HB 185- Amends manslaughter to remove “battery” language, leaving only the “under 10” language.

HB 201- Expands the list of crimes that are not eligible for suspension of sentence.

HB 234- Changes the sex offender notice delays to date of conviction (not sentence) if bailed.

HB 240- Changes tobacco age to 21.

HB 241- Creates crimes for forgery of an insurance certificate or card.

HB 251- Switches time served on a conviction obtained while on parole from consecutive to concurrent.

HB 268- Loosens conditions on eligibility to qualify for a work release program.

HB 286- Removes the lesser penalty of a dog fighting conviction.

HB 292- Adds a drug diversion program alternative for certain suspended/deferred sentences.

HB 315- Increases penalties for public intimidation.

HB 317- Repeals 15:571.3(C)(1)(s) relative to diminution of good time on CDS convictions.

HB 323- Abolishes death penalty.

HB 331- Creates the crime of communicating false information to a PO.

HB 332- Makes property used in a public bribery case forfeitable contraband.

HB 334- Enacts Inmate Rehabilitation and Workforce Act.

HB 347- Prohibits any traffic citation quota system, whether formal or informal.

HB 377- Provides for registry of sex offender online identifiers.

HB 391- Failure to pay sex offender registration is a punishable crime.

HB 394- Adds provision for negligent homicide (BAC of .03% or higher).

HB 400- Adds language creating 2nd, 3rd offenses for altering a vehicle's VIN.

HB 413- Creates theft of a motor vehicle. Stiffer penalties. Need affidavit. Can prosecute person who gives false affidavit.

HB 434- Increases penalties for securities violations.

HB 459- Allows school officials to search suspended/expelled kids who've been readmitted on a probationary basis.

HB 478- Creates the crime of resisting an officer with force or violence.

HB 529- Creates the crime of unlawful possession of a handgun on a motorcycle.

HB 586- Beefed up witness protection, may include new identity, relocation, 24-hour security.

HB 602- Excludes CDS convictions from the prohibition on work release programs.

HB 631- Places a burden on defendant's attorney to keep video/audio tapes of protected persons secret.

HB 632- Creates crime of unlawful possession of a recording/tape of a protected person.

HB 634- Makes it a crime for a defendant or certain family members contacting the victim when defendant being tried for some crimes.

HB 642- Certain sex offenses maximum sentence reduced from life to 99 years.

HB 643- Extends the cleansing period for DWI in certain instances.

HB 662- Creates the crime of home improvement fraud.

HB 727- Requires notification by the DOC, Sheriff, or other houser of the inmate to the media when an inmate escapes.

HB 751- Adds identity theft to Louisiana Racketeering Act.

HB 752- Increases the fine for hurting/killing a police animal.

HB 757- Increases the penalties for battery of a school teacher.

HB 760- Enacts new guidelines for the Sentencing Commission.

HB 770- Adds new language to obtain a conviction for computer aided solicitation of a minor.

HB 776- Adds specific penalty provisions for possessing various amounts of MDMA (Ecstasy).

HB 777- Adds provision that a defendant must pay out-of-pocket for any DNA testing in PCR cases.

HB 778- Extends DNA deadline for filing in PCR cases to 2011.

HB 786- Raises minimum mandatory sentence in 3rd, 4th offense DWI's to 60 and 90 days, respectively.

HB 845- Increases penalties for driving w/o a license.

HB 846- Enacts geriatric parole. Paroled at 65, with some exceptions.

HB 885- Adjusts time periods for conducting hearings in driver license suspension/revocation.

HB 975- Authorizes law enforcement to use sex offender registry cash to defray costs of community notice.

HB 1012- Creates an unlawful presence of a felon statute. Can't be within certain feet of schools, etc. if convicted of certain felonies.

HB 1033- Creates "Back DROP" for DA retirement system.

HB 1052- Adds a couple new crimes to list of sex offender registry.

SENATE BILLS

SB 4- Requires persons convicted of identity theft to register and give local community notice. Penalties for failure to comply.

SB 34- Penalties for retaliating against a person who in good faith makes reports of abuse of vulnerable adults.

SB 52- Creates the crime of battery of a protective services worker.

SB 71- Officer may only issue a summons when a person commits a traffic violation.

SB 143- Sex offenders can't wear a hood/mask or give out candy on Halloween.

SB 144- In certain circumstances, court can order certain sex offenders undergo MPA treatment. Castration as an alternative.

SB 191- Creates the crime of residential mortgage fraud. Is a felony.

SB 225- Creates the crime of wearing revealing clothing. Can't show portions of body, undergarments.

SB 237- Adds "paid caregiver" as a person who can commit criminal abandonment.

SB 248- Creates Human Cloning Prohibition Act.

SB 263- Redefines jumping bail. Puts burden on defendant if notice was given.

SB 274- Expands the certification acceptance of individuals who can administer DWI tests.

SB 306- Adds provision of making false statements, misleading law enforcement to the obstruction of justice statute.

SB 310- Constitutional amendment that seeks to have school teachers forfeit a portion of their pension if convicted of molestation of a juvenile or a related crime.

SB 382- Amends 3rd degree feticide, vehicular homicide and injuring statutes.

SB 461- Amends peremptory challenge statute to include "gender" with race. Also adds subsection that allows for challenge if there's "disparity between race or gender and the makeup of the judicial district."

SB 474- Lessens defendant's burden of mental incompetence from clear and convincing standard to preponderance of evidence.

SB 511- Amends the crime of gambling to include "computer" and allows for seizure of gambling contraband.

SB 512- Adds "text messaging" to the solicitation of minors statute.

SB 513- Increases the distance sex offenders must be from schools, parks, etc. from 1,000 to 2,000 feet.

SB 515- Increases the time a defendant may be held and a DA may file a felony bill from 60 to 120 days.

SB 517- Changes sex offender notification requirement from 15-year period to life.