

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 425

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

ABORTION: Provides relative to coerced abortion

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:66(A)(introductory paragraph) and (6) and 87.6 and to enact
3 R.S. 14:66(A)(7), relative to abortion; to provide relative to the crime of coerced
4 abortion; to provide relative to the elements of coerced abortion; to provide for
5 circumstances that constitute coerced abortion; to provide for penalties; to provide
6 for conduct that constitutes extortion; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 14:66(A)(introductory paragraph) and (6) and 87.6 are hereby
9 amended and reenacted and R.S. 14:66(A)(7) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §66. Extortion

11 A. Extortion is the communication of threats to another with the intention
12 thereby to obtain anything of value or any acquittance, advantage, or immunity of
13 any description. Any ~~one~~ of the following ~~kinds~~ of threats shall be sufficient to
14 constitute extortion:

15 * * *

16 (6) A threat intended to compel a pregnant woman to have an abortion as
17 defined in R.S. 14:87.1.

18 (7) A threat to do any other harm.

19 * * *

1 §87.6. Coerced abortion

2 A. Coerced abortion is committed when any person ~~intentionally~~ knowingly
3 engages in the use or threatened use of physical force, control, or intimidation
4 against ~~the person of~~ a pregnant woman; with the intent to compel the pregnant
5 woman to undergo an abortion against her will, whether or not the abortion
6 procedure has been attempted or completed. For purposes of this Section, physical
7 force, control, or intimidation shall mean any of the following:

8 (1) Battery as defined in R.S. 14:33.

9 (2) Assault as defined in R.S. 14:36.

10 (3) Simple kidnapping as defined in R.S. 14:45.

11 (4) False imprisonment as defined in R.S. 14:46.

12 (5) Extortion as defined in R.S. 14:66.

13 B. Whoever commits the crime of coerced abortion shall be fined not more
14 than five thousand dollars, ~~or~~ imprisoned with or without hard labor for not more
15 than five years, or both.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 425 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Carlson

Abstract: Provides relative to the crime of coerced abortion.

Present law (R.S. 14:66) provides for the crime of extortion.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that an additional threat that constitutes extortion is a threat intended to compel a pregnant woman to have an abortion as defined in present law (R.S. 14:87.1).

Present law (R.S. 14:87.6) provides for the crime of coerced abortion.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 14:87.6(A)) provides that coerced abortion is committed when any person intentionally engages in the use or threatened use of physical force against the person of a pregnant woman, with the intent to compel the pregnant woman to undergo an abortion against her will, whether or not the abortion procedure has been attempted or completed.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that coerced abortion is committed when any person knowingly rather than intentionally, engages in the use or threatened use of physical

force, control, or intimidation against a pregnant woman rather than the person of a pregnant woman, to undergo an abortion against her will, whether or not the abortion procedure has been attempted or completed.

Proposed law provides that physical force, control, or intimidation shall mean any of the following:

- (1) Battery as defined in present law (R.S. 14:33).
- (2) Assault as defined in present law (R.S. 14:36).
- (3) Simple kidnapping as defined in present law (R.S. 14:45).
- (4) False imprisonment as defined in present law (R.S. 14:46).
- (5) Extortion as defined in present law (R.S. 14:66).

Present law (R.S. 14:87.6(B)) provides that whoever commits the crime of coerced abortion shall be fined not more than \$5,000, imprisoned for not more than five years, or both.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that the term of imprisonment shall be served with or without hard labor.

(Amends R.S. 14:66(A)(intro. para.) and (6) and 87.6; Adds R.S. 14:66(A)(7))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Within the present law offense of extortion, add a threat intended to compel a pregnant woman to have an abortion as defined in present law (R.S. 14:87.1) as conduct that constitutes extortion.
3. Clarify that physical force against a pregnant woman is an element of present law crime of coerced abortion.
4. Change the conduct within the present law (R.S. 14:87.6) crime of coerced abortion that constitutes physical force, control, or intimidation to include any of the following:
 - (a) Battery as defined in present law (R.S. 14:33).
 - (b) Assault as defined in present law (R.S. 14:36).
 - (c) Simple kidnapping as defined in present law (R.S. 14:45).
 - (d) False imprisonment as defined in present law (R.S. 14:46).
 - (e) Extortion as defined in present law (R.S. 14:66).
5. Restore provisions of present law relative to mandatory reporting.