

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 410 (Substitute of Senate Bill No. 86 by Senator Morris)

BY SENATOR MORRIS

CRIME/PUNISHMENT. Provides enhanced penalties for accessories after the fact to sex offenses. (8/1/26)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 14:25, relative to parties to crimes; to provide for sentencing of accessories after the fact to sex offenses; to provide for mandatory minimum sentences; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:25 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§25. Accessories after the fact

A. An accessory after the fact is any person who, after the commission of a felony, shall harbor, conceal, or aid the offender, knowing or having reasonable ground to believe that he has committed the felony, and with the intent that he may avoid or escape from arrest, trial, conviction, or punishment.

B. An accessory after the fact may be tried and punished, notwithstanding the fact that the principal felon may not have been arrested, tried, convicted, or amenable to justice.

C. ~~Whoever~~ **Except as provided in Subsection D of this Section, whoever** becomes an accessory after the fact shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than five years, or both;

1 provided that in no case shall his punishment be greater than one-half of the
2 maximum provided by law for a principal offender.

3 **D.(1) Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, whoever**
4 **becomes an accessory after the fact to a sex offense as defined in R.S. 15:541**
5 **shall be imprisoned for not less than one-half of the minimum sentence provided**
6 **by law for a principal offender and not more than one-half of the maximum**
7 **sentence provided by law for a principal offender.**

8 **(2) Whoever becomes an accessory after the fact to a sex offense as**
9 **defined in R.S. 15:541 punishable by life imprisonment shall be imprisoned at**
10 **hard labor for not less than ten years nor more than fifty years, without benefit**
11 **of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST

SB 410 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Morris

Present law provides that an accessory after the fact may be tried and punished, notwithstanding the fact that the principal felon may not have been arrested, tried, convicted, or amenable to justice.

Present law also provides that an accessory after the fact will be fined not more than \$500, or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than five years, or both, provided that in no case will his punishment be greater than ½ of the maximum sentence provided by law for a principal offender.

Proposed law retains present law and provides enhanced penalties for an accessory after the fact to present law sex offenses as follows:

- (1) An accessory after the fact to a sex offense not punishable by life imprisonment will be sentenced to not less than ½ of the minimum sentence nor more than ½ of the maximum sentence provided by law for a principal offender.
- (2) An accessory after the fact to a sex offense punishable by life imprisonment will be imprisoned at hard labor for not less than 10 years nor more than 50 years without benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 14:25)