

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 207

BY SENATOR MIGUEZ

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE. Provides 10-year time limitation on prosecution of certain crimes committed by elected officials and public employees. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of Code of Criminal Procedure Arts.  
3 572(A) and 573 and to enact Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 571.2, relative to  
4 limitations on institution of prosecution; to provide relative to elected officials and  
5 public employees; to extend the time limitation on prosecution for certain crimes  
6 committed by elected officials and public employees; and to provide for related  
7 matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. The introductory paragraph of Code of Criminal Procedure Arts. 572(A)  
10 and 573 are hereby amended and reenacted and Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 571.2 is  
11 hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 **Art. 571.2. Time limitation for certain offenses committed by elected officials or**  
13 **public employees**

14 **Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 572, the time limitation for the**  
15 **institution of prosecution of an elected official or a public employee for the**  
16 **following offenses when the offense was committed during the official's term in**  
17 **office or the public employee's period of public employment shall be ten years**

1 after the official's term of office during which the offense was committed ends  
 2 or the official otherwise leaves or vacates the office, whichever is sooner, or ten  
 3 years after the public employee's employment during which the offense was  
 4 committed terminates:

5 (1) Abuse of office, R.S. 14:134.3.

6 (2) Bribery of a candidate, R.S. 18:1469.

7 (3) Bribery of voters, R.S. 18:1461.

8 (4) Corrupt influencing, R.S. 14:120.

9 (5) Malfeasance in office, R.S. 14:134.

10 (6) Public bribery, R.S. 14:118.

11 Art. 572. Limitation of prosecution of noncapital offenses

12 A. Except as provided in Articles 571 ~~and~~ , 571.1, **or 571.2**, no person shall  
 13 be prosecuted, tried, or punished for an offense not punishable by death or life  
 14 imprisonment, unless the prosecution is instituted within the following periods of  
 15 time after the offense has been committed:

16 \* \* \*

17 Art. 573. Running of time limitations; exception

18 The time limitations established by Article 572 shall not commence to run  
 19 as to the following offenses until the relationship or status involved has ceased to  
 20 exist when:

21 (1) ~~The~~ **Except as provided in Article 571.2, the** offense charged is based  
 22 on the misappropriation of any money or thing of value by one who, by virtue of his  
 23 office, employment, or fiduciary relationship, has been entrusted therewith or has  
 24 control thereof.

25 (2) The offense charged is extortion (**R.S. 14:66**) or false accounting (**R.S.**  
 26 **14:70**) committed by a public officer or employee in his official capacity.

27 ~~(3) The offense charged is public bribery.~~

28 ~~(4)~~ The offense charged is a felony crime of violence as defined in R.S.  
 29 14:2(B) or cruelty to juveniles as defined in R.S. 14:93 and the victim is under

- 1           eighteen years of age, unless a longer period of limitation is established by Article  
2           571.1 or any other provision of law.

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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)]

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## DIGEST

SB 207 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Miguez

Present law provides time limitations on the prosecution of noncapital offenses.

Proposed law retains present law but provides a 10-year time limitation on the prosecution of the following offenses committed by an elected official while in office or by a public employee during his period of public employment:

- (1) Abuse of office.
- (2) Bribery of a candidate.
- (3) Bribery of voters.
- (4) Corrupt influencing.
- (5) Malfeasance in office.
- (6) Public bribery.

Proposed law further provides that the 10-year time limitation begins to run after the public official leaves office or the public employee's employment terminates.

Present law provides prescription periods for all noncapital criminal offenses.

Proposed law increases the prescription period from four years to ten years in certain circumstances but otherwise retains present law.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends C.Cr.P. Art. 572(A)(intro para) and 573; adds C.Cr.P. Art. 571.2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary C to the original bill

1. Change from no time limitation to 10-year time limitation on prosecution of certain offenses committed by elected officials and public employees.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Make present law subject to proposed law.

2. Increase the prescription period for public bribery from four years after the relationship has ended to 10 years after the relationship has ended.
3. Make technical changes.