

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 49

BY SENATOR MORRELL

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES. Provides for family member visitation with offenders who have sustained serious injuries while in custody. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 15:833(A)(1), relative to inmate contact with persons outside of a correctional institution; to provide that an inmate who has sustained serious bodily injury is entitled to visitation with immediate family members under certain circumstances; to provide definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:833(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§833. Inmate contact with persons outside institution; temporary release

A.(1)(a) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections may authorize visits and correspondence under reasonable conditions between inmates and approved friends, relatives, and other persons.

(b)(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if an inmate sustains serious bodily injury requiring admittance to an intensive care unit or trauma center, members of the inmate's immediate family shall be granted visitation with the inmate for the duration of the inmate's admission to the intensive care unit or trauma center, unless the warden or other governing authority of the inmate's correctional facility, jail, or other detention facility provides written

Proposed law defines "immediate family" as a spouse, child, parent, stepparent, sibling, stepsibling, grandchild, or grandparent of the inmate.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 15:833(A)(1))