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## DIGEST

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HB 424 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Leger

**Abstract:** Requires applicants for licenses for blasters and handlers of explosives to be 18 years of age or older and requires licensed blasters who are under 21 years of age to be supervised by a licensed blaster who is at least 21 years of age.

Present law prohibits any person or business from acquiring, selling, possessing, storing, engaging in the use of, or otherwise handling explosives in this state, except in conformity with the provisions of present law.

Present law provides that licenses issued by the deputy secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, to handle explosives shall be issued for a period not to exceed four years from the date of issuance.

Present law provides numerous criteria required of applicants, including determinations of mental health, lack of certain criminal convictions or arrests, lack of discharge from the armed services under conditions other than honorable, being a legal resident of the United States, and being 21 years of age or older.

Proposed law retains present law but requires applicants for licenses for blasters and handlers of explosives to be eighteen years of age or older.

Proposed law adds the requirement that persons under 21 years of age that possess a blaster license shall be supervised by a licensed blaster who is at least 21 years of age. Violations of this proposed law requirement are punished pursuant to present law with a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$20,000 or imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less than five years nor more than ten years, or both

(Amends R.S. 40:1472.3(E)(2)(c); Adds R.S. 40:1472.3(A)(5))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Require licensed blasters who are under the age of 21 years to be supervised by a licensed blaster who is at least 21 years old.