SLS 23RS-329

REENGROSSED

2023 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 124

BY SENATORS KLEINPETER, FOIL AND HARRIS

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

CRIME/PUNISHMENT. Increases the penalty for driving a vehicle without a license plate attached. (8/1/23)

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 32:57(A), relative to motor vehicles and traffic regulation; to
3	increase penalties for operating a vehicle without a properly attached license plate;
4	and to provide for related matters.
5	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
6	Section 1. R.S. 32:57(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
7	§57. Penalties; alternatives to citation
8	A. The (1) Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, the
9	first violation of the provisions of this Chapter or any regulation of the department,
10	secretary, and commissioner made pursuant thereto shall be punished by a fine of not
11	more than one hundred seventy-five dollars or by imprisonment for not more than
12	thirty days, or both, unless otherwise specifically provided. A subsequent violation
13	shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment
14	for not more than ninety days, or both.
15	(2) If a violation of R.S. 32:53(A)(2) is committed in the preparation of
16	or during the commission of a felony offense in order to escape detection, the
17	defendant shall be punished by an additional fine of two hundred dollars or by

Page 1 of 2 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

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1	imprisonment of an additional thirty days, or both. For any violation of R.S.
2	32:53(A)(2), the vehicle may be immediately impounded.
3	* * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Whitney Kauffeld.

DIGEST

SB 124 Reengrossed

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Kleinpeter

<u>Present law</u> provides penalties for violations of <u>present law</u> relative to motor vehicles and traffic regulation (La. Highway Regulatory Act). <u>Present law</u> provides that the first violation of <u>present law</u> or any regulation made pursuant to <u>present law</u> is to be punished by a fine up to \$175 or imprisonment up to 30 days, or both. <u>Present law</u> further provides that a subsequent violation is to be punished by a fine up to \$500 or imprisonment up to 90 days, or both.

Proposed law permits law enforcement to impound the vehicle at the time of the violation.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that if the offense is committed in preparation to or during the commission of a felony in order to escape detection, the defendant is to be punished by an additional fine of \$200, or an additional imprisonment of 30 days, or both.

Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

Effective August 1, 2023.

(Amends R.S. 32:57(A))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Delete provisions which increases fines specific to driving without a license plate.