

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 505

BY REPRESENTATIVE FONTENOT

CRIMINAL/PROCEDURE: Provides relative to electronic bonds

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 311(11) and 328(C), relative to electronic
3 bonds; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 311(11) and 328(C) are hereby
6 enacted to read as follows:

7 Art. 311. Definitions

8 For the purpose of this Title, the following definitions shall apply:

9 * * *

10 (11) Electronic bond is a commercial bail bond contract executed digitally
11 as security given by a surety to assure a defendant's appearance before the proper
12 court whenever required.

13 * * *

14 Art. 328. Bail undertaking

15 * * *

16 C.(1) An electronic bond may be executed, at the discretion of the sheriff,
17 in a parish where the sheriff has an electronic bond software in place. Agents shall
18 be approved by the sheriff to execute an electronic bond. A licensed bail bond
19 producer applying for electronic bond authority shall make an application to the
20 sheriff and shall meet the following criteria to execute an electronic bond:

- 1 (a) Reside in this state or maintain a principal place of business in this state.
- 2 (b) Be qualified to write bail bonds.
- 3 (c) Be qualified and possess a Louisiana bail bond producer license for a
4 period of not less than ten years preceding the date of application.
- 5 (2) The approving sheriff authority may require any documents deemed
6 necessary to verify the information contained in the application.
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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HB 505 Original

2024 Regular Session

Fontenot

Abstract: Provides relative to electronic bonds and bail undertaking for electronic bonds.

Proposed law (C.Cr.P. Art. 311) defines "electronic bonds".

Proposed law provides that an electronic bond may be executed at the discretion of the sheriff, and the sheriff shall approve agents to execute the bond.

Proposed law provides that a licensed bail bond producer applying for electronic bond authority shall make an application to the sheriff and shall meet the following criteria to execute an electronic bond:

- (1) Reside in this state or maintain a principal place of business in this state.
- (2) Be qualified to write bail bonds.
- (3) Be qualified and possess a La. bail bond producer license for a period of not less than 10 years preceding the date of application.

Proposed law provides that the approving sheriff authority may require any documents deemed necessary to verify the information contained in the application.

(Adds C.Cr.P. Art. 311(11) and 328(C))