

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 128

BY SENATOR CARTER

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

LAW ENFORCEMENT. Requires a written report when any law enforcement officer uses force on a member of the public. (8/1/25)

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:2554, relative to law enforcement; to provide for responsibilities of law enforcement officers while interacting with the public; to require mandatory reporting when force is used; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:2554 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2554. Mandatory reporting when force is used

A. No later than January 1, 2026, the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training shall adopt a policy regarding mandatory reporting when a peace officer uses physical force including but not limited to use of a weapon on a member of the public whether or not the interaction results in an arrest. The policy shall include but not be limited to when the use of force report shall be required, who shall be required to complete the report, and the penalty for failure to complete the report. This policy shall apply to all law enforcement agencies in the state. Nothing in this policy shall prevent an agency from adopting a more strenuous policy. The reports shall be considered a public record and subject to the Public Records Law, R.S. 44:1 et seq.

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B. This Section may be cited as "Shantel Arnold's Law".

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)]

DIGEST

SB 128 Reengrossed

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Proposed law requires the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T. council) to adopt a policy no later than January 1, 2026, regarding mandatory reporting when a peace officer uses physical force on a member of the public whether or not the interaction results in an arrest.

Proposed law requires the P.O.S.T. council to adopt policies regarding, but not limited to the following:

- (1) When the use of force report is required.
- (2) Who is required to complete the report.
- (3) The penalty for failure to complete the report.

Proposed law provides that the policy apply to all law enforcement agencies in the state.

Proposed law authorizes a law enforcement agency to adopt a more strenuous policy.

Proposed law requires that all reports be considered a public record and subject to the Public Records Law.

Proposed law authorizes proposed law to be cited as "Shantel Arnold's Law".

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Adds R.S. 40:2554)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by SenateCommittee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the original bill

1. Remove provision requiring a report when a peace officer uses force on a member of the public whether or not the interaction results in an injury.
2. Add provision requiring a use of force report when the force used is reasonably expected to cause physical injury greater than transitory pain.
3. Add provision requiring the report to be completed by the officer or his immediate supervisor.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Make technical changes.
2. Remove provision requiring when a report is required.

3. Remove provision requiring who must complete the report.
4. Add provision that physical force includes but is not limited to use of a weapon.
5. Add certain policy requirements that the P.O.S.T. council adopt.