

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 179

BY REPRESENTATIVE MUSCARELLO

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:511 and Code of Civil Procedure Article 372(C) and (D),
3 relative to notes and recordings retained by court reporters; to provide for ownership,
4 custody, and control of the notes and recordings of court reporters; to provide
5 relative to criminal and civil cases; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 15:511 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §511. Court reporters; retention and destruction of notes and recordings of criminal
9 cases

10 A. The court reporter shall retain indefinitely all notes and ~~tape~~ audio
11 recordings of a criminal case. However, if the record of the trial or other criminal
12 proceeding is fully transcribed, the court reporter shall retain all notes and ~~tape~~ audio
13 recordings which have been fully transcribed for a period of not less than two years
14 after transcription is completed. In criminal cases where all defendants are acquitted,
15 the court reporter need not retain the notes and ~~tape~~ audio recordings. Retention of
16 the tape and audio recordings are subject to the storage provisions provided in
17 Subsection B of this Section. The court reporter shall destroy any notes and ~~tape~~
18 audio recordings of any matter upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

