

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 119 (HB 98)

2026 Regular Session

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Existing law (R.S. 22:1078) requires certain protections for victims of domestic violence. Prohibits the unlawful transfer of victims' health insurance and medically-related information.

New law provides a penalty of imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than one year or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both, for any person who intentionally releases, discloses, transfers, or disseminates for publication any information related to the abuse status of an applicant or insured with the intent to coerce, intimidate, or harass any person for a purpose not provided in existing law.

New law provides that community-based shelters that serve victims of abuse are not liable for any unlawful release, disclosure, transfer, or dissemination of information made by an individual in violation of new law.

Existing law (R.S. 40:2024.5) provides for the confidentiality and prohibited disclosure of records in the possession of the La. Domestic Abuse Battery Fatality Review Panel.

Prior law provided that a member of the review panel, or any local or regional panel or agent of a local or regional panel, may not disclose any information that is confidential under existing law.

New law repeals prior law and makes the prohibition restrictive, rather than permissive, and provides for a penalty of imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than one year or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both, for any person who, with the intent to coerce, intimidate, or harass any person, violates the provisions of existing law.

Existing law (R.S. 46:1844) provides basic rights for victims and witnesses and requires certain confidentiality for crime victims who are minors, victims of sex offenses, and victims of human trafficking-related offenses.

New law provides for a penalty of imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than one year or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both, for any person who, with the intent to coerce, intimidate, or harass any person, intentionally releases, discloses, transfers, or disseminates for publication any information contained in existing law.

Existing law (R.S. 46:1862) provides for the confidentiality and prohibited disclosure of records in the possession of multidisciplinary team conferences and family justice centers.

New law provides for a penalty of imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than one year or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both, for any person who, with the intent to coerce, intimidate, or harass any person, intentionally releases, discloses, transfers, or disseminates for publication any information contained in existing law.

Existing law (R.S. 46:2124.1) provides for the confidentiality and prohibited disclosure of records in the possession of a community shelter.

New law provides for a penalty of imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than one year or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both, for any person who, with the intent to coerce, intimidate, or harass any person, intentionally releases, discloses, transfers, or disseminates for publication any information contained in existing law.

New law provides that a community shelter is not liable for any unlawful release, disclosure, transfer, or dissemination of information made by an individual in violation of new law.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 40:2024.5(F); Adds R.S. 22:1078(F) and (G), R.S. 40:2024.5(H), and R.S. 46:1844(W)(6), 1862(E), and 2124.1(E) and (F))