

Existing law requires sex offenders to register with the sheriff of the parish of their residence and with the chief of police if they reside in an incorporated area having a police department. Requires registration with the municipal police department if residing in a parish with a population in excess of 450,000.

New law retains these provisions but requires that if the sex offender enters an emergency shelter during a declared emergency, then he has twenty-four hours after admittance to the shelter to notify the management of the facility of his status as a sex offender. Requires that the offender provide his full name, date of birth, social security number, and last address of registration prior to the declaration of emergency.

New law defines an emergency shelter to include any facility, building, or structure operated by a non-profit, tax-exempt organization which provides the basic necessities of life to persons displaced due to a man-made or natural emergency or disaster.

New law requires that the manager or director of the shelter make a reasonable effort to notify the chief law enforcement officer of the parish or municipality where the shelter is located of the presence of a sex offender in the shelter. Further provides that no person associated with a nonprofit organization operating a shelter is to be held liable for failure of the shelter manager or operator to notify the appropriate law enforcement officials of the presence of a sex offender.

New law requires that any person who is required to register as a sex offender and who is absent from his last address of registration for more than 30 days to re-register with the sheriff of the parish of his new residence and with the chief of police if the new address is located in an incorporated area which has a police department. Further requires that the person provide all community notifications, based on the new address, as required by existing law for a person required to register as a sex offender.

Existing law requires that if an offender changes his residence within the same parish, then written notification of the change of address is to be sent to the sheriff and chief of police, if in a municipality, within ten days of establishing the new address. Requires that the sheriff and chief of police send written notification of the offender's change of address to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections within thirty calendar days from receipt of the written notification from the offender of his change of address.

New law retains these provisions in existing law but further requires the offender to also submit this written notice if he is displaced from his residence and establishes any temporary residence for a period of not less than ten consecutive days following issuance of an evacuation order or declaration of emergency issued by the governor or the local governing authority.

Existing law requires that if an offender moves to a new parish, then he must register with the sheriff in the new parish or chief of police within ten days of establishing his new residence. Requires that notice also be sent to the sheriff or chief of police, in the case of a municipality, where he was last registered before moving to the new parish. Requires that the sheriff and chief of police send written notification of the offender's change of address to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections within thirty calendar days from receipt of the written notification from the offender of his change of address.

New law retains these provisions in existing law but further requires the offender to also submit this written notice if he is displaced from his residence and establishes any temporary residence for a period of not less than ten consecutive days following issuance of an evacuation order or declaration of emergency issued by the governor or the local governing authority.

Existing law provides the following penalties for failure to register as a sex offender:

- (1) For the first failure to register, requires a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment, with or without hard labor for not less than one nor more than five years or both.

- (2) For a second or subsequent offense, requires a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$2,500 or imprisonment with or without hard labor for not less than three nor more than ten years without benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence.

New law increases penalties for failure to register as follows:

- (1) For the first failure to register, requires the fine of not more than \$1,000 and mandates imprisonment with a minimum term of two years but no more than ten years and that such imprisonment be served at hard labor and without benefit of parol, probation or suspension of sentence.
- (2) For second or subsequent offense, the required fine is increased to \$3,000 and imprisonment at hard labor is required for a minimum term of five years but no more than 20 years and continues the provision that the imprisonment be served without benefit of parol, probation or suspension of sentence.

Existing law requires every sheriff, municipal chief of police, and each chief officer of every other law enforcement agency of the state to record the fingerprints of all persons in their respective custody who have been convicted of a sex offense for which imprisonment might be imposed and to disseminate and file such fingerprints in the same manner as those recorded upon every arrest. Requires that the sheriff forward this fingerprint and registration information to the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information for inclusion in a central registry of sex offenders. New law retains these provisions but clarifies that the municipal police chief or, if in a parish with a population in excess of 450,000, the police department forward such information to the bureau.

(Amends R.S. 15:542(A), (C)(2) and (F) and 545(A))