The original instrument was prepared by Cathy R. Wells. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Dawn Romero Watson.

DIGEST

Martiny (SB 114)

Present law authorizes any parish coroner or judge of a court of competent jurisdiction to order a person to be taken into protective custody and transported to a treatment facility or to the office of the coroner for immediate examination when a peace officer or other credible person executes a statement under private signature specifying that, to the best of his knowledge and belief and personal observations, the person is mentally ill or suffering from substance abuse and is in need of immediate treatment to protect the person or others from physical harm.

Proposed law retains present law and further authorizes the statement to be made by video conferencing in Jefferson Parish. Requires that the affiant be physically located at a police station in Kenner, Jean Lafitte, or Grand Isle and that the video conference be between a police station and the coroner's office. Provides that if the affiant is credible, a qualified staff of the coroner's office shall complete the order for protective custody form and fax it to the police station. Provides that if the statement meets the affiant's approval, the affiant sign the statement which shall be witnessed on video and by a peace officer and immediately faxed to the coroner's office. Requires the original signed form to be sent to the coroner's office.

Effective Aug. 1, 2013.

(Adds R.S. 28:53.3)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

   Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the original
      bill

   1.   Adds qualification that the video conference be between a police station in
        Kenner, Jean Lafitte, or Grand Isle and the Jefferson Parish coroner's office.

   2.   Adds requirement for coroner staff to complete form and fax to police station.

   3.   Adds requirement for original signed form to be sent to coroner's office.