
DIGEST

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HB 640 Engrossed

2015 Regular Session

Mike Johnson

Abstract: Increases criminal fines for bribery of voters.

Present law provides that bribery of voters is the giving or offering to give, directly or indirectly, any money, or anything of apparent present or prospective value to any voter at any general, primary, or special election, or at any convention of a recognized political party, with the intent to influence the voter in the casting of his ballot. Provides that the acceptance of, or the offer to accept, directly or indirectly, any money, or anything of apparent present or prospective value, by any such voters under such circumstances shall also constitute bribery of voters. Provides that bribery of voters is also the giving or offering to give, directly or indirectly, any money or anything of apparent present or prospective value to secure or influence registration of a person or to secure or influence a person to sign or not to sign a recall or other election petition.

Present law provides that whoever violates present law shall be fined or imprisoned, or both. Provides for imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for not more than two years for the first offense. Provides for imprisonment at hard labor for not more than five years for a second or subsequent offense.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides for a fine of not more than \$2,000 for the first offense and a fine of not more than \$5,000 for a second or subsequent offense.

Proposed law increases the fine for a first offense from not more than \$2,000 to not more than \$4,000 and increases the fine for a second or subsequent offense from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

(Amends R.S. 18:1461(B))