
DIGEST

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HB 49 Original

2020 Regular Session

Marcelle

Abstract: Amends the criminal penalties for a first conviction of possession of marijuana.

Present law provides for the following penalties with regard to a first conviction of possession of marijuana:

- (1) Offender possesses 14 grams or less - fined up to \$300, imprisoned for not more than 15 days, or both.
- (2) Offender possesses more than 14 grams - fined up to \$500, imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

Proposed law amends the penalties for a first conviction of possession of marijuana as follows:

- (1) Offender possesses 14 grams or less - fined up to \$300 or sentenced to not more than 48 hours of court-approved community service. Removes the present law term of imprisonment.
- (2) Offender possesses more than 14 grams but less than 28 grams - fined up to \$300, imprisoned for not more than six months, or both. In addition, the court may sentence the offender to perform not more than 48 hours of court-approved community service.
- (3) Offender possesses 28 grams or more - fined up to \$500, imprisoned for not more than six months, or both. In addition, the court may sentence the offender to perform not more than 48 hours of court-approved community service.

(Amends R.S. 40:966(C)(2))