

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 265

BY REPRESENTATIVE VILLIO

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:574.2(D)(9) and R.S. 46:1844(B), (N)(2) and (3), and (O)(1),  
3 relative to victim's rights; to provide for additional means of notification; to provide  
4 for notice; to provide for appearances before the Board of Pardons and the committee  
5 on parole; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 15:574.2(D)(9) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §574.2. Committee on parole, Board of Pardons; membership; qualifications;  
9 vacancies; compensation; domicile; venue; meetings; quorum; panels;  
10 powers and duties; transfer of property to committee; representation of  
11 applicants before the committee; prohibitions

12 \* \* \*

13 D. In accordance with the provisions of this Part, the committee on parole  
14 shall have the following powers and duties:

15 \* \* \*

16 (9)(a) To notify the victim, or the spouse or next of kin of a deceased victim,  
17 when the offender is scheduled for a parole hearing. The notification shall be in  
18 writing and sent by mail or electronic communications no less than sixty days prior  
19 to the hearing date. The notice shall advise the victim, or the spouse or next of kin  
20 of a deceased victim, ~~of~~ how to obtain information about their rights with regard to  
21 the hearing. The notice is not required when the victim, or the spouse or next of kin  
22 of a deceased victim, advises the committee in writing that such notification is not



1 by any method reasonably calculated to notify the victim or designated family  
2 member of the judicial proceeding in a timely manner.

3 \* \* \*

4 N.

5 \* \* \*

6 (2)(a) Upon filing of a victim notice and registration form by a victim or a  
7 family member, or a witness, it shall be the duty of the Department of Public Safety  
8 and Corrections, corrections services, at the time of the appeal, discharge, or parole  
9 of an inmate including a juvenile inmate, to notify ~~the victim, family member, or~~  
10 ~~witness, all registered persons~~ by certified mail or electronic communications of such  
11 appeal or release. Such form shall be included in the prisoner's commitment  
12 documents to be delivered to the warden of any state correctional facility where such  
13 prisoner has been committed or transferred.

14 (b) When an inmate who has been convicted of a crime of violence as  
15 defined in R.S. 14:2(B) or a sex offense as defined in R.S. 15:541 is eligible for  
16 release pursuant to R.S. 15:571.3, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections  
17 shall notify the victim or the victim's family, all persons who have filed a victim  
18 registration and notification form, the appropriate law enforcement agency, and the  
19 appropriate district attorney no later than sixty days prior to the inmate's release.

20 (c) Notice by electronic communications is allowed only in instances where  
21 the victim has opted-in to such form of notification during the registration process  
22 and is complete upon transmission.

23 (3)(a) In the event of an escape or absconding by an inmate including a  
24 juvenile inmate, from any facility under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public  
25 Safety and Corrections, corrections services, it shall be the duty of the department  
26 to immediately notify the victim, family member of the victim, or witness, at the  
27 most current address or phone number on file with the department; and via electronic  
28 mail or communication, of the escape by the most reasonable and expedient means  
29 possible. If the inmate is recaptured, the department shall send notice within forty-

