

# ACT No. 446

2022 Regular Session  
HOUSE BILL NO. 200  
BY REPRESENTATIVE BROWN

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Code of Criminal Procedure Article 833(B) and (C)(introductory  
3 paragraph), relative to the presence of the defendant; to provide relative to the  
4 presence of the defendant in misdemeanor prosecutions; to require the court to allow  
5 a plea of not guilty by the filing of a sworn affidavit in advance of the scheduled  
6 arraignment date; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 833(B) and (C)(introductory  
9 paragraph) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 Art. 833. Presence of defendant; misdemeanor prosecution

11 \* \* \*

12 B.(1) A plea of not guilty of a misdemeanor ~~shall~~ may be allowed to be  
13 entered through counsel of record.

14 (2) and in A plea of not guilty of a misdemeanor shall be allowed to be  
15 entered through counsel of record in the absence of the defendant by the filing of a  
16 sworn affidavit in advance of the scheduled arraignment date.

17 C. The sworn affidavit referenced in ~~Paragraph B~~ Subparagraph (B)(2) of  
18 this Article shall include the caption of the case and summons number, citation  
19 number or docket number as applicable, and state as follows:

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_