

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 460 (SB 217)

2023 Regular Session

Henry

New law creates the Child Abuse and Neglect Registry.

New law provides for the following:

- (1) Provides for the discretionary registration of persons convicted of enumerated felony offenses based on the type of offense and subject to the judge's discretion, where the victim is a child, with local law enforcement agencies of where they reside, and in the parish of conviction, and to provide local law enforcement with information regarding their identities, residence, conviction, and other personal information.
- (2) Requires the court to provide written notification to any person convicted of an applicable offense of the requirement to register.
- (3) Provides procedures for offenders to provide information to local law enforcement agencies regarding a change of address, residence, employment, or schooling within 3 business days of release.
- (4) Requires in-person verification by the offender at each registration period.
- (5) Provides that the crime of failing to register includes the failure to register, periodically renew and update registration, provide proof of residence, notification of change of address, or other registration information. Provides that knowingly providing false information to law enforcement constitutes a failure to register and subjects the offender to a fine of not more than \$1,000 and imprisonment of not more than one year.
- (6) Provides that the court may waive registration and notification requirements if the offender is convicted of second degree battery.
- (7) Provides that the La. Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information (bureau) must develop and maintain the registry known as the Child Abuse and Neglect Registry. Provides that upon receipt of registration information, the bureau must immediately enter the appropriate information in the registry.
- (8) Provides for an exception to the registration requirements of new law if the offender is also required to register as a sex offender.
- (9) Provides that certain information is exempt from public view.
- (10) Provides that the bureau must maintain a child abuse and neglect notification and registration website that contains a disclaimer regarding potential inaccuracies and prohibits using the information for harassment, stalking, or threats to the offender.
- (11) Provides for email notification to local law enforcement agencies upon registration of the offender.
- (12) Provides for social networking sites to have information to compare registered users with email addresses, instant message addresses, or other similar online identifiers with persons on the registry.
- (13) Requires offenders to maintain their registration for a period of 10 years for the first offense and for life for any second or subsequent offense.
- (14) Provides that the implementation of this Act is subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature for this purpose.

Effective July 1, 2024

(Adds R.S. 15:563-563.3)