

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 585

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILFORD CARTER

BAIL: Provides for the factors in fixing the amount of bail and modifications of bail

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 316(9) and (10) and 319(A) and  
3 to enact Code of Criminal Procedure Article 316(11), relative to bail; to provide  
4 relative to factors in fixing the amount of bail; to provide that the amount of bail  
5 shall be fixed in an amount having regard to the presumption of innocence until the  
6 defendant is proven guilty; to provide relative to modifications of bail; to provide  
7 relative to motions filed to reduce the amount of bail; and to provide for related  
8 matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 316(9) and (10) and 319(A) are  
11 hereby amended and reenacted and Code of Criminal Procedure Article 316(11) is hereby  
12 enacted to read as follows:

13 Art. 316. Factors in fixing amount of bail

14 The amount of bail shall be fixed in an amount that will ensure the presence  
15 of the defendant, as required, and the safety of any other person and the community,  
16 having regard to:

17 \* \* \*

18 (9) The presumption of innocence until the defendant is proven guilty.

19 ~~(9)~~(10) Any other circumstances affecting the probability of defendant's  
20 appearance.



- (5) The nature and seriousness of the danger to any other person or the community that would be posed by the defendant's release.
- (6) The defendant's voluntary participation in a pretrial drug testing program.
- (7) The absence or presence in the defendant of any controlled dangerous substance.
- (8) Whether the defendant is currently out on a bail undertaking on a previous felony arrest for which he is awaiting institution of prosecution, arraignment, trial, or sentencing.
- (9) Any other circumstances affecting the probability of the defendant's appearance.
- (10) The type or form of bail.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that consideration shall be given to the presumption of innocence until the defendant is proven guilty.

Present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 319(A)) relative to modifications of bail, authorizes the court having trial jurisdiction over the offense charged, on its own motion or on motion of the prosecuting attorney or defendant, for good cause, to either increase or reduce the amount of bail, or require new or additional security.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that when a motion to reduce the amount of bail is filed, the motion is required to be heard no later than 30 days after the motion is filed unless good cause is shown by the state or the court.

(Amends C.Cr.P. Arts. 316(9) and (10) and 319(A); Adds C.Cr.P. Art. 316(11))