

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 542 (HB 127)

2024 Regular Session

Bayham

Existing law provides for the offense of the crime of simple obstruction of a highway of commerce.

Prior law provided that the elements of the existing law offense of simple obstruction of a highway of commerce was the intentional or criminally negligent placing of anything or performance of any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which would render movement thereon more difficult.

Prior law further provided for penalties that consisted of a fine of not more than \$200, imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

New law defines the crime of simple obstruction of a highway of commerce as either of the following when done in an intentional or criminally negligent manner:

- (1) The placing of anything or the performance of any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which will render movement thereon more difficult.
- (2) The conspiracy or aiding and abetting of other individuals to commit the placing of anything or the performance of any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which will render movement thereon more difficult.

New law changes the penalty to a fine of \$750, imprisonment for not more than six months, or both, for either of the following:

- (1) Any person who places anything or performs any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which will render movement thereon more difficult.
- (2) Any person who plans the placement of anything or performance of any act on any railway, railroad, navigable waterway, road, highway, thoroughfare, or runway of an airport, which will render movement thereon more difficult.

New law shall not apply to an employee or contractor of any public utility or a provider of electric utility services, communications, telecommunications, video, or information services, to the extent that the employee or contractor is acting on behalf of such entity in a road, highway, or thoroughfare.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 14:97)