SLS 26RS-321 **REENGROSSED**

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 320

BY SENATOR MIZELL

LAW ENFORCEMENT. Provides relative to DNA detection of sexual and violent offenses. (8/1/26)

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 15:605.1, relative to DNA detection of sexual and violent offenders; to provide reporting of outstanding CODIS hit data; to provide for a central repository; to provide for an outstanding CODIS hits tracking system; to provide for reporting; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:605.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§605.1. Outstanding CODIS hit data; reporting**

**A. The legislature recognizes the importance of improving the collective response of the criminal justice system to criminal investigations, including sexual assault investigations; therefore, measures shall be taken to create accountability in the CODIS hit notification and resolution process. Tracking of outstanding CODIS hits is essential to ensuring that scientific work done in the crime laboratories successfully translates into justice in the state, and that future convictions or exonerations in older cases are not lost or buried under new caseloads.**

**B. As used in this Section, the following terms have the following**



Coding: Words which are ~~struck through~~ are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

**meanings:**

**(1) "CODIS hit" means a confirmed database match that aids a criminal investigation and one or more of the investigations involved in the match are unsolved.**

**(2) "CODIS hit notification" means a formal communication sent by a CODIS-participating laboratory to a criminal justice agency when a DNA profile from an unsolved case is confirmed to have matched a DNA profile already in the CODIS database.**

**(3)"CODIS hit resolution" means that an agency has taken steps to determine if the investigative lead provided by the CODIS-participating laboratory is probative to the case at hand. The ultimate disposition of the CODIS hit should be either a communication to the CODIS-participating laboratory that the lead has been exhausted or that the lead has probative value and shall be followed up on by collection and submission of a reference DNA sample to the laboratory from the associated individual, if applicable.**

**(4)"Outstanding CODIS hit" means that a criminal justice agency has officially received a CODIS hit notification and that investigative lead has not been cleared, acted upon, or resolved by that agency within ninety days of receipt.**

**C. The state police shall serve as the central repository for tracking of outstanding CODIS hits in Louisiana.**

**D. The state police shall create and operate a statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system. The state police may contract with public or private entities, including but not limited to private software and technology providers, for the creation and maintenance of the system.**

**E. The statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system shall accomplish all of the following:**

**(1) Track the status of the CODIS hits sent to criminal justice agencies that have not been resolved within ninety days.**


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**(2) Allow criminal justice agencies to update and track the status of outstanding CODIS hits.**

**(3) Use electronic technology in order to allow continuous access.**

**(4) Provide for cross jurisdictional data sharing with law enforcement agencies.**

**F. The state police may use a phased implementation process in order to launch the system and facilitate entry and use of the system for required participants. The state police may phase in initial participation according to the region or volume.**

**G. All law enforcement agencies that receive CODIS hit notifications, including CODIS-participating laboratories, investigating law enforcement agencies, district attorneys' offices, and agencies that aid in the identification of missing persons and human remains, shall provide all required information to the tracking system and fully participate in the system no later than January 1, 2027.**

**H.(1) After implementation of the tracking system, the state police shall submit an annual report on the statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system to the Senate Committee on Judiciary C, the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, the governor, and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library pursuant to R.S. 24:771 and 772 no later than March first of each year. The state police shall make public the current report on its website. The report shall include all of the following:**

**(a) The total number of outstanding CODIS hits in the system statewide and by jurisdiction.**

**(b) The number of outstanding CODIS hits added to the system in the reporting period statewide and by jurisdiction.**

**(c) The total number of outstanding CODIS hits that have been resolved in the system statewide and by jurisdiction.**

**(2) For the purpose of the report required by this Subsection, an**


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**outstanding CODIS hit shall be assigned to the jurisdiction associated with both the CODIS-participating laboratory who processed the evidence associated with the unsolved case that received the CODIS hit, as well as the criminal justice agency that submitted the applicable evidence to the CODIS-participating laboratory.**

**I. The state police shall adopt rules as necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.**

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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DIGEST

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Present law defines "CODIS" as the Combined DNA Index System, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's national DNA identification index system that allows the storage and exchange of DNA records submitted by state and local forensic DNA laboratories.

Proposed law requires the La. State Police (LSP) to serve as the central repository for tracking of outstanding CODIS hits in Louisiana.

Proposed law requires the LSP to create and operate a statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system.

Proposed law authorizes the LSP to contract with public or private entities, including but not limited to private software and technology providers, for the creation and maintenance of the system.

Proposed law requires the statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system to accomplish all of the following:

(1) Track the status of the CODIS hits sent to criminal justice agencies that have not been resolved within 90 days.

(2) Allow criminal justice agencies to update and track the status of outstanding CODIS hits.

(3) Use electronic technology in order to allow continuous access.

(4) Provide for cross jurisdictional data sharing with law enforcement agencies.

Proposed law authorizes the LSP to use a phased implementation process in order to launch the system and facilitate entry and use of the system for required participants, according to the region or volume.

Proposed law requires all law enforcement agencies that receive CODIS hit notifications, including CODIS-participating laboratories, investigating law enforcement agencies, district attorneys' offices, and agencies that aid in the identification of missing persons and human remains, to provide all required information to the tracking system and fully participate in


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the system no later than January 1, 2027.

Proposed law requires the LSP after implementation of the tracking system, to submit an annual report on the statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system to the Senate Committee on Judiciary C, the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, the governor, and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library no later than March 1 of each year.

Proposed law requires the LSP to make public the current report on its website and include all of the following information:

(1) The total number of outstanding CODIS hits in the system statewide and by jurisdiction.

(2) The number of outstanding CODIS hits added to the system in the reporting period statewide and by jurisdiction.

(3) The total number of outstanding CODIS hits that have been resolved in the system statewide and by jurisdiction.

Proposed law provides that for the purpose of the report an outstanding CODIS hit shall be assigned to the jurisdiction associated with both the CODIS-participating laboratory who processed the evidence associated with the unsolved case that received the CODIS hit, as well as the criminal justice agency that submitted the applicable evidence to the CODIS participating laboratory.

Proposed law requires the LSP to adopt rules as necessary to implement proposed law.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 15:605.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Change the annual date for LSP to report certain information from July 31 to March 1.


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