

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 276

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARPENTER

BAIL: Provides relative to the imposition of a statewide bail schedule for individuals arrested for certain sexual offenses involving children

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Code of Criminal Procedure Article 315(D), relative to bail; to provide for the  
3 minimum fixing of the amount of bail in relation to the type of offense committed;  
4 to provide for duties of the court; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 315(D) is hereby enacted to read as  
7 follows:

8 Art. 315. Schedules of bail

9 \* \* \*

10 D.(1) Each district court with criminal jurisdiction in this state shall set an  
11 initial bail amount of not less than one million dollars for an individual arrested for  
12 any of the following offenses when committed against a victim under the age of  
13 eighteen years:

14 (a) First degree rape (R.S. 14:42).

15 (b) Second degree rape (R.S. 14:42.1).

16 (c) Third degree rape (R.S. 14:43).

17 (d) Sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.1).

18 (e) Oral sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.3).

- 1                    (f) Child sexual abuse materials (R.S. 14:81.1).
- 2                    (g) Molestation of a juvenile or a person with a physical or mental disability
- 3                    (R.S. 14:81.2).
- 4                    (h) Aggravated crime against nature (R.S. 14:89.1).
- 5                    (i) Human trafficking (R.S. 14:46.2).
- 6                    (2) The court shall consider the factors provided in Article 316 before fixing
- 7                    any initial bail amount pursuant to this Paragraph.

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HB 276 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Carpenter

**Abstract:** Provides relative to the imposition of a statewide bail schedule for individuals arrested for certain sexual offenses involving children.

Present law provides for schedules of bail. Further authorizes certain courts to fix bail amounts in certain cases.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires each district court with criminal jurisdiction in the state of La. to set an initial bail amount of not less than \$1,000,000 for an individual arrested for any of the following offenses when committed against a victim under the age of 18 years:

- (1) First degree rape (R.S. 14:42).
- (2) Second degree rape (R.S. 14:42.1).
- (3) Third degree rape (R.S. 14:43).
- (4) Sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.1).
- (5) Oral sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.3).
- (6) Child sexual abuse materials (R.S. 14:81.1).
- (7) Molestation of a juvenile or a person with a physical or mental disability (R.S. 14:81.2).
- (8) Aggravated crime against nature (R.S. 14:89.1).
- (9) Human trafficking (R.S. 14:46.2)

Proposed law requires the court to consider the factors provided in present law (C.Cr.P. Art. 316) before fixing any initial bail amount pursuant to proposed law.

(Adds C.Cr.P. Art. 315(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Change the minimum initial bail amount from \$50,000 to \$1 million.
2. Add human trafficking as an offense for which a minimum initial amount of bail is required.