

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS****HB 39****2026 Regular Session****Firment**

LAW ENFORCE/OFFICERS: Requires peace officers to be citizens of the United States

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Requires that a peace officer be a U.S. citizen.
2. Defines "United States citizen" as any individual who is a citizen of the U.S. by law, birth, or naturalization.
3. Makes technical changes.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Present law provides for qualifications and training requirements for all peace officers in the state of La.

Present law defines a "peace officer" as any employee of the state, a municipality, a sheriff, or other public agency, whose permanent duties actually include the making of arrests, the performing of searches and seizures, or the execution of criminal warrants, and who is responsible for the prevention or detection of crime or for the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or highway laws of this state, but not including any elected or appointed head of a law enforcement department.

Proposed law retains present law, but adds an additional requirement that a peace officer be a U.S. citizen.

Proposed law defines "United States citizen" as any individual who is a citizen of the U.S. by law, birth, or naturalization.

Proposed law excludes current peace officers who are lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the U.S. from proposed law if such peace officers become citizens no later than Aug. 1, 2031.

(Amends R.S. 40:2402(3); Adds R.S. 40:2402(5))