

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 546

BY REPRESENTATIVES SPELL, CHASSION, FISHER, JACKSON, AND KNOX

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 28:53(L)(1), relative to taking a person into protective custody;  
3 to specify the information necessary to authorize a peace officer to take a person into  
4 protective custody; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 28:53(L)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §53. Admission by emergency certificate; extension; payment for services rendered

8 \* \* \*

9 L.(1)(a) A peace officer or a peace officer accompanied by an emergency  
10 medical service trained technician may take a person into protective custody and  
11 transport him to a treatment facility for a medical evaluation ~~when, as a result of his~~  
12 ~~personal observation, if~~ the peace officer or emergency medical service technician  
13 has ~~reasonable grounds~~ reason to believe both of the following: ~~the person is a proper~~  
14 ~~subject for involuntary admission to a treatment facility because the person is acting~~  
15 ~~in a manner dangerous to himself or dangerous to others, is gravely disabled, and is~~  
16 ~~in need of immediate hospitalization to protect such a person or others from physical~~  
17 ~~harm. The person may be transported only to a treatment facility as defined in R.S.~~  
18 ~~28:2.~~

19 (i) The person is a danger to himself, a danger to others, or gravely disabled.

20 (ii) There is a substantial risk of serious harm to the person or others unless  
21 the person is taken into protective custody immediately.

