
The original instrument was prepared by Michael Bell. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Michelle Broussard-Johnson.

DIGEST

Cheek (SB 232)

Present law provides for a reduction of the registration period if the offender maintains a clean record for 10 years upon petition to be relieved of the sex offender registration to the court of conviction for those convicted in Louisiana.

Proposed law maintains present law and provides that the petition seeking relief from registration be accompanied by a certification from the office of state police of the offender's history of registration in Louisiana.

Present law provides that the district attorney shall be served with a copy of the petition.

Proposed law maintains present law and provides that the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of state police and Department of Justice shall be given notice of the filing with a copy of the pleading.

Proposed law creates the Louisiana Sexual Assault Task Force within the Department of Justice.

Proposed law provides that the task force consists of 25 members and that the attorney general serve as chairman.

Proposed law provides for a listing of issues for study by the task force, including but not limited to investigation issues, procedures used in obtaining and analyzing sexual assault evidence, and training requirements for law enforcement officers and others in sexual assault cases.

Proposed law provides that given the unusual position of trust and authority that members of the clergy of all religions enjoy from their congregation and the opportunity that such an esteemed position give those few individuals, the task force shall examine and report on the number of allegations of sexual abuse or assault reported, investigated, and the number of those which were validated or not validated and shall propose specific standards to be followed in the investigation of such cases and shall issue recommendations of enhanced penalties applicable to those who abuse that trust to perpetrate sexual offenses.

Proposed law requires the task force to report its findings and recommendations to the governor, the president of the Senate, and the speaker of the House of Representatives not later than December 31, 2012.

Proposed law provides that the task force shall terminate 60 days after its report of findings has been submitted.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 15:544 (D)(1), (2), (3)(e), (4)(a) and (b); adds R.S. 15:555 and 556)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the original bill.

1. Deletes the responsibility of the office of the attorney general to maintain on the State Sex Offender and Child Predator Registry the registration period end date.
2. Deletes the administrative procedure created for offenders who are required to register to request a review of the registration period end date established by the attorney general.
3. Deletes the duties of the sheriff to provide certain information to the offender required to register within the sheriff's jurisdiction.
4. Changes the reporting date for the task force from July 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill.

1. Technical amendments.
2. Adds to duties of the task force regarding allegations against the clergy.