

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 683 by Representative Terry Landry

COURTS: Amends eligibility requirements for participation in drug courts and provides relative to annual evaluations of drug courts

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Deletes provision which would require each drug division of court to provide outcome data to the judicial administrator of the Supreme Court of Louisiana on the participants in the program.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law authorizes each district court to create a drug division probation program and further provides for participation, eligibility, notification, and reporting requirements.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law prohibits the following defendants from participating in the drug division probation program:

- (1) A defendant who has prior felony convictions for any offenses defined as crimes of violence pursuant to present law (R.S. 14:2(B)).
- (2) A defendant whose current charge is for a crime of violence as defined by present law or an offense that involves domestic violence.

Present law defines homicide as the killing of a human being by the act, procurement, or culpable omission of another and includes first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter, negligent homicide, and vehicular homicide.

Proposed law amends present law to provide for the following:

- (1) A defendant who has a prior felony conviction for any offense defined as a crime of violence pursuant to present law, except for any homicide offense as defined by present law, shall be eligible to participate in a drug division probation program.
- (2) A defendant whose current charge before the court is a crime of violence as defined by present law or a felony offense of domestic abuse battery as defined by present law shall not be eligible to participate in a drug division probation program.

Present law requires each drug division to develop a method of evaluation to be compiled annually and transmitted to the judicial administrator of the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Proposed law retains present law and further requires that the evaluations shall include information on recidivism reduction on the participants in the program.

(Amends R.S. 13:5304(B)(10) and (K))