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## DIGEST

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HB 717 Original

2015 Regular Session

Smith

**Abstract:** Prohibits parishes and municipalities from enacting certain ordinances with respect to victims of domestic abuse and other crimes who request the assistance of law enforcement and other emergency officials.

Proposed law prohibits a parish or municipality from enacting ordinances that impose penalties on persons who are victims of domestic abuse or other crimes for contacting law enforcement or other emergency officials to request assistance. Prohibits a parish or municipality from enacting ordinances that impose penalties on any other person who contacts law enforcement or other emergency officials on behalf of someone else if the person had a reasonable belief that assistance was needed to prevent a property loss, personal injury, or death.

Proposed law prohibits a parish or municipality from enacting ordinances that impose penalties on property owners whose tenants, or persons acting on behalf of the tenants, contact law enforcement or other emergency officials to request assistance with a domestic abuse incident or other crime.

Proposed law defines a "penalty" as a charge, fine, fee, or other monetary assessment.

Proposed law prohibits a parish or municipality from enacting ordinances that authorize the eviction of a tenant or the termination or suspension of a rental agreement signed by a tenant as result of the tenant, or someone acting on behalf of the tenant, contacting law enforcement or other emergency officials to request assistance with a domestic abuse incident or other crime.

Proposed law grants any person the right to bring a civil action against any parish or municipality if the parish or municipality takes action against such person pursuant to an ordinance enacted in violation of proposed law. Provides for remedies from a court of competent jurisdiction.

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

(Adds R.S. 33:9701)