The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Ashley E. Menou.

DIGEST 2016 Regular Session

Morrell

<u>Present law</u> requires courts, when possible, to provide a secure waiting area during court proceedings for victims, witnesses, or homicide victim's families that does not require them to be in close proximity to the defendants, or their families or friends. Provides a court must without exception provide a secure waiting area in cases involving violent crimes.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and provides that upon request of a party and if possible, the court must also provide designated seating in a courtroom for victims, victims' family, and witnesses that does not require them to be in close proximity to defendants, defendants' family, or witnesses for the defendant.

Effective August 1, 2016.

SB 320 Engrossed

(Amends R.S. 46:1844(G))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Adds requirement that a party request designated seating in a courtroom.