



RE-ENTRY READY LOUISIANA

2020 Session

HB 77 – Representative Devillier

Abstract: *Provides relative to the reporting requirements of persons released on probation or parole and authorizes the use of certain technology to comply with reporting requirements.*

Probation and Parole

- There are approximately 58,600 people on community supervision (probation and parole) in Louisiana.
- Each officer manages a caseload of approximately 116 people.
- Louisiana’s probation and parole policy does not include the utilization of technology as part of reporting requirements.
- Those supervised on either probation or parole must report as directed to their officer.
- Probation and parole revocations account for almost half of all prison admissions.
- Technical revocations are a result of violations of the conditions of probation or parole, not necessarily the commission of a new crime, and account for 40 percent of all revocations.

What will HB 77 do?

- HB 77 reinforces our shared goal of recidivism reduction by removing unnecessary barriers to maintaining employment for those on community supervision.
- Specifically, HB 77 allows the use of technology—such as video conferencing—and provides flexibility of reporting for those employed. These are win-win scenarios for officers, employers, and persons on supervision.
- Employment is a critical element to successful reentry and ultimately reducing recidivism to the benefit of public safety.¹
- HB 77 allows officers to allocate their limited bandwidth efficiently and focus efforts on those persons who may require greater supervision.
- Removes what some employers might view as a disincentive to hire people on supervision due to concerns they might be required to take significant time off work to meet with supervising officer.
- Mississippi implemented a similar policy in 2018, [MS code § 47-7-36](#).

¹ <https://www.charleskochinstitute.org/blog/shrm-koch-institute-survey-employing-criminal-records/>