

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 249

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON

SEX OFFENSE/REGISTRY: Provides relative to sex offender notification requirements

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 15:542.1(D), relative to sex offender registration and notification; to provide  
3 relative to sex offender notification requirements; to require certain sex offenders to  
4 provide notification for certain networking websites; to provide for the contents of  
5 such notification; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 15:542.1(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §542.1. Notification of sex offenders and child predators

9 \* \* \*

10 D.(1) Any person who is required to register pursuant to the provisions of  
11 this Chapter, who is otherwise not prohibited from using a networking website, and  
12 who creates a profile or who uses the functionality of a networking website to  
13 contact or attempt to contact other networking website users shall include in his  
14 profile for the networking website an indication that he is a sex offender and shall  
15 include notice of the crime for which he was convicted, the jurisdiction of  
16 conviction, a description of his physical characteristics as required by this Section,  
17 and his residential address. The person shall ensure that this information is displayed  
18 in his profile for the networking website and that such information is visible to, or  
19 is able to be viewed by, other users and visitors of the networking website.

20 (2) For purposes of this Subsection, "networking website" means an Internet  
21 website, the purpose of which is social interaction with other networking website  
22 users, which contains profile web pages of the members of the website that include

1        the names or nicknames of such members, that allow photographs and any other  
2        personal or personally identifying information to be placed on the profile web pages  
3        by such members, and which provides links to other profile web pages on the  
4        networking website of friends or associates of such members that can be accessed  
5        by other members or visitors to the website. A networking website provides  
6        members of, or visitors to, such website the ability to leave messages or comments  
7        on the profile web page that are visible to all or some visitors to the profile web page  
8        and may also include a form of electronic mail for members of the networking  
9        website.

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#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Thompson

HB No. 249

**Abstract:** Requires sex offenders to provide notification on certain networking websites of their status as sex offenders.

Present law provides that sex offenders and child predators are required to provide certain notifications to local law enforcement and the community.

Present law provides certain penalties for the failure to comply with sex offender registration and notification requirements.

Proposed law retains present law and adds notification on a networking website for any sex offender, who is otherwise not prohibited from accessing the networking website pursuant to present law, who creates a profile or who uses the functionality of the networking website to contact other networking website users to the list of present law notification requirements. Provides for the contents of proposed law notification.

Proposed law defines "networking website".

(Adds R.S. 15:542.1(D))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill.

1. Added provision which states that the provisions of proposed law do not apply to an offender who is otherwise prohibited from accessing networking websites pursuant to present law.