

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 272

BY REPRESENTATIVE BILLIOT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

VETERANS: Amends eligibility requirements to participate in the Veterans Court program

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:5366(B)(9)(a) and (b) and to enact R.S. 13:5366(B)(12),  
3 relative to the Veterans Court program; to provide for eligibility for participation in  
4 the Veterans Court program; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 13:5366(B)(9)(a) and (b) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
7 13:5366(B)(12) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §5366. The Veterans Court program

9 \* \* \*

10 B. Participation in probation programs shall be subject to the following  
11 provisions:

12 \* \* \*

13 (9) In order to be eligible for the Veterans Court program, the defendant  
14 must satisfy each of the following criteria:

15 (a) The defendant cannot have any prior felony convictions for any offenses  
16 defined as ~~crimes of violence in R.S. 14:2(B)~~ a homicide in R.S. 14:29.

17 (b) The crime before the court cannot be ~~a crime of violence as defined in~~  
18 ~~R.S. 14:2(B)~~ any offense defined as a homicide in R.S. 14:29 or a crime of violence  
19 as defined in R.S. 14:2(B) unless the entire sentence may be deferred or suspended  
20 pursuant to the provisions of Louisiana law. If the crime before the court is domestic



The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Authorize expansion of the program to include a crime of violence unless the entire sentence may be deferred or suspended.
2. Authorize a defendant to be eligible for the program if the crime before the court is the defendant's first offense for domestic abuse battery and the defendant complies with sentencing requirements provided for in present law.
3. Require the consent of the victim before the defendant can be determined eligible if the crime before the court is a crime of violence and is eligible for the program pursuant to the provisions of proposed law.
4. Remove the exclusion of any sex offense that requires registration under present law for a crime before the court.