

LWVLA Criminal Justice Bills/Instruments 2024 Legislative Session (updated 3/15/2024)

Committee	Bill Number	Author, Party & District	Summary	LWVLA Position
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 56	Candace Newell (D-Orleans)	<p>ABORTION: Provides relative to exceptions to abortion Provide that an abortion is not the performance of a medical procedure to treat a patient who has been diagnosed, in good faith medical judgment and certified in writing in the woman's medical record, with a pregnancy that has ended or is in the process of ending due to spontaneous miscarriage, also known in medical terminology as spontaneous abortion, missed abortion, inevitable abortion, incomplete abortion, or septic abortion, Proposed law provides an exception for a medical procedure that treats a patient who has, in good faith medical judgment and certified in writing in the woman's medical record, been diagnosed with a complication that renders the pregnancy nonviable.</p>	<p>SUPPORT The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices. The League supports the rights of women and those who can become pregnant to self-determination related to, and including, but not limited to bodily autonomy, privacy, reproductive health, and lifestyle choice.</p> <p>Therefore, the League supports exceptions to the abortion ban that is currently in place to allow medical professionals to provide necessary and appropriate care to women experiencing a pregnancy that has failed or is nonviable.</p>
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 62	Danny McCormick (R-Caddo)	<p>WEAPONS/FIREARMS: Provides relative to enforcement of federal firearm laws Creates the "Second Amendment Preservation Act" and provides relative to infringements on the right to keep and bear arms.</p>	<p>OPPOSE The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the proliferation of guns in the United States is a major health and safety threat to its citizens. Such proliferation not only increases the likelihood of crimes, injuries, suicide, and death by guns, but also constrains the civic space and lives of those who seek to live in a society free from gun violence.</p>

				The U.S. Constitution already contains a Second Amendment that has been interpreted by the Supreme Court in recent years to expand gun rights. Gun owners suffer few constraints in the current environment. In fact, the proliferation of guns and gun violence suggests the opposite. The bill is redundant of existing law and thus unnecessary.
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 63	Candace Newell (D-Orleans)	ABORTION: Amends definitions relative to the crime of abortion Present law provides that abortion is not the performance of a medical procedure necessary in good faith medical judgment or reasonable medical judgment to prevent the death or substantial risk of death to the pregnant woman due to a physical condition, or to prevent the serious, permanent impairment of a life-sustaining organ of a pregnant woman. Present law further provides that a physician shall make reasonable medical efforts under the circumstances to preserve both the life of the mother and the life of her unborn child in a manner consistent with reasonable medical practice	SUPPORT The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices. The League supports the rights of women and those who can become pregnant to self-determination related to, and including, but not limited to bodily autonomy, privacy, reproductive health, and lifestyle choice. Therefore, the League supports exceptions to the abortion ban that is currently in place to allow medical professionals to provide necessary and appropriate care to women experiencing a pregnancy that has failed or is nonviable.
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 94	Matthew Willard (D-Orleans)	JUVENILES: Provides relative to birth certificates and state identification for children leaving custody of the office of juvenile justice Proposed law requires the department to ensure that a child has a certified birth certificate and valid six-year identification card within 30 days from when a child is committed to the	SUPPORT When it comes to juvenile justice, the League believes in treating children like children. Our overall position on criminal justice supports rehabilitative programming for successful reentry and reduced recidivism. Provision of the formerly incarcerated with the documents necessary for a

			<p>custody of the department and upon the child's release from custody.</p>	<p>successful and productive civic life helps to achieve these ends.</p> <p>We support restoration of voting rights and other restorations of citizen status for adult offenders with a view to ensuring successful reentry into society. For similar reasons, we support the provision of juvenile offenders with birth certificates and identification to begin a productive civic life as adults upon their release from custody.</p>
<p>Administration of Criminal Justice</p>	<p>HB 164</p>	<p>Delisha Boyd (D-Orleans)</p>	<p>ABORTION: Provides for exceptions to the abortion laws of this state relative to rape and incest</p>	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices. The League supports the rights of women and those who can become pregnant to self-determination related to, and including, but not limited to bodily autonomy, privacy, reproductive health, and lifestyle choice.</p> <p>Therefore, the League supports exceptions to the abortion ban that is currently in place to allow victims of the crimes of rape and incest to obtain abortions by any means available to them.</p>
<p>Administration of Criminal Justice</p>	<p>HB 203</p>	<p>Debbie Villio (R-Jefferson)</p>	<p>JUVENILE PROCEDURE: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to offenses to which special juvenile procedures are not applicable</p>	<p>OPPOSE</p> <p>When it comes to juvenile justice, the League believes in treating children like children. Our overall positions on criminal justice support rehabilitative programming for successful reentry and reduced recidivism.</p>

				<p>While it is the case that juveniles may commit heinous crimes, their youth and generally lesser cognitive and emotional development may mitigate their culpability to some degree. Their youth may also make them more amenable to rehabilitation in ways that make special procedures to distinguish them from adult offenders appropriate.</p>
<p>Administration of Criminal Justice</p>	<p>HB 210</p>	<p>Debbie Villio (R-Jefferson)</p>	<p>JUVENILES/JURISDICTION: Provides relative to the prosecution of a juvenile as an adult for certain offenses</p>	<p>OPPOSE</p> <p>When it comes to juvenile justice, the League believes in treating children like children. Our overall positions on criminal justice support rehabilitative programming for successful reentry and reduced recidivism.</p> <p>While it is the case that juveniles may commit heinous crimes, their youth and generally lesser cognitive and emotional development may mitigate their culpability to some degree. Their youth may also make them more amenable to rehabilitation in ways that militate against treating them as adults.</p>
<p>Administration of Criminal Justice</p>	<p>HB 416</p>	<p>Edmond Jordan (D-East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge)</p>	<p>CRIMINAL/RECORDS: Provides relative to expungement of criminal records</p>	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>The League's positions on criminal justice support rehabilitative programming for successful reentry and reduced recidivism. Expungement of criminal records in appropriate circumstances facilitates these outcomes and can be crucial to the ability of formerly incarcerated people to obtain education, training, and employment.</p>

Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 498	Alonzo Knox (D-Orleans)	<p>CRIME: Provides relative to firearm-free zones Proposed law retains present law and adds a major entertainment district as a firearm-free zone</p>	<p>SUPPORT The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the proliferation of guns in the United States is a major health and safety threat to its citizens. Such proliferation not only increases the likelihood of crimes, injuries, suicide, and death by guns, but also constrains the civic space and lives of those who seek to live in a society free from gun violence.</p> <p>The status of Louisiana as a center of tourism and entertainment, along with the occurrence of horrific acts of gun violence in entertainment areas and facilities in recent years, suggests this this bill is timely and necessary.</p>
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 553	Marcus Bryant (D-Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin)	<p>CRIMINAL/RECORDS: Provides relative to the disposition of certain records for seventeen-year-old offenders Proposed law provides that a person shall be entitled to the automatic expungement of his arrest, at no cost to him, if he is 17 years of age when he is arrested or charged with any criminal offense.</p>	<p>SUPPORT The League’s positions on criminal justice support rehabilitative programming for successful reentry and reduced recidivism. Expungement of criminal records in appropriate circumstances facilitates these outcomes and can be crucial to the ability of formerly incarcerated people to obtain education, training, and employment. The case for expungement is even greater for young offenders, who have their entire lives ahead of them to live.</p>
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 578	Rodney Lyons (D-Jefferson)	<p>CORRECTIONS: Creates the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program Proposed law creates the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program with the express purpose of giving juveniles an option other than some form of criminal</p>	<p>SUPPORT When it comes to juvenile justice, the League believes in treating children like children. Our overall position on criminal justice supports rehabilitative programming for</p>

			activity.	successful reentry and reduced recidivism. This is especially the case for youth, whose malleability and capacity for reformation of intellectual perception and emotional regulation may also make them more amenable to rehabilitation. This bill aims at putting young people back on track to a productive life,
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 604	Kyle M. Green, Jr. (D-Jefferson)	WEAPONS: Provides relative to the carrying of weapons by a convicted felon Removes the prohibition of a convicted felon from carrying a firearm for a period of 10 years from completion of sentence.	OPPOSE The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the proliferation of guns in the United States is a major health and safety threat to its citizens. Such proliferation not only increases the likelihood of crimes, injuries, suicide, and death by guns, but also constrains the civic space and lives of those who seek to live in a society free from gun violence. Ten years post-completion of sentence is a reasonable waiting period before allowing felons to carry a gun.
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 627	Mandie Landry (D-Orleans)	WEAPONS: Provides relative to permitless concealed carry Provide that a person cannot bring a concealed handgun to a route of or within 1,000 feet of a parade or demonstration for which a permit is issued by a governmental entity.	SUPPORT The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the proliferation of guns in the United States is a major health and safety threat to its citizens. Such proliferation not only increases the likelihood of crimes, injuries, suicide, and death by guns, but also constrains the civic space and lives of those who seek to live in a society free from gun violence. The status of Louisiana as a center of tourism and entertainment,

				particularly parades at Mardi Gras and other festivals, along with the occurrence of horrific acts of gun violence at parades and public events in recent years, suggests this this bill is timely and necessary.
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 630	Mandie Landry	<p>CRIMINAL/PROCEDURE: Provide s relative to criminal prosecution of certain pregnancy outcomes</p> <p>Provides for immunity from criminal prosecution for pregnant women who experience pregnancy termination. Provides that no person shall be criminally prosecuted or otherwise punished or penalized for the outcome of her own pregnancy.</p>	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices. The League supports the rights of women and those who can become pregnant to self-determination related to, and including, but not limited to bodily autonomy, privacy, reproductive health, and lifestyle choice.</p> <p>Therefore, the League supports exceptions to the abortion ban that is currently in place for pregnant women who obtain pregnancy termination by any means available to them.</p>
Administration of Criminal Justice	HB 705	Edmond Jordan (D-East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge)	<p>CORRECTIONS/PRISONERS: Provides relative to payphones and communications for incarcerated individuals</p> <p>Makes phone calls and communications for incarcerated individuals free</p>	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>The League’s positions on criminal justice support rehabilitative programming for successful reentry and reduced recidivism. The ability to maintain contact with their families, children, and community via telephone and other means while incarcerated can be of great benefit in creating the possibility for a successful reentry into family and community once the sentence is complete.</p>
Judiciary B	SB 383	Royce Duplessis (D-Orleans)	<p>CRIMINAL PROCEDURE: Provides relative to postconviction relief for defendants</p>	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>The conviction of alleged offenders based on verdicts of non-unanimous</p>

			convicted by a non-unanimous jury verdict. (8/1/24)	juries is an unjust and discriminatory blot on the history of criminal justice in Louisiana that should be allowed to recede into the past. Opportunities for postconviction allow these defendants, some of who may not have committed the crime to pursue relief that will allow them to have successful and productive lives upon reentry to society.
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