

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 131

BY REPRESENTATIVE COUSSAN

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

CRIMINAL/VICTIMS: Provides relative to interviewing crime victims and family members

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 46:1844(C)(3), relative to the rights of crime victims; to provide  
3 relative to interviews by defense counsel or employees or agents of defense counsel;  
4 to require written notification; to provide relative to the victim's right to refuse an  
5 interview; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 46:1844(C)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §1844. Basic rights for victim and witness

9 \* \* \*

10 C. Interviewing the victim and witness of a crime.

11 \* \* \*

12 (3) Prior to requesting any interview with a victim or victim's family  
13 member, the attorney for the defendant or any employee or agent working for the  
14 attorney for the defendant, shall clearly and unambiguously notify the victim or  
15 victim's family member in writing of his representation or work on behalf of the  
16 defendant, and shall advise the victim or the victim's family member of their right  
17 to refuse the interview. The victim and the victim's family may refuse any requests  
18 for interviews with the attorney for the defendant or any employee or agent working  
19 for the attorney for the defendant. If the victim is a minor, the parent or guardian of  
20 the victim may refuse to permit the minor to be interviewed by the attorney for the

