

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 414

BY REPRESENTATIVES LOPINTO AND MORENO

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

CRIMINAL/SENTENCING: Revises and consolidates statutes providing for the diminution of sentence

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 880 and 892(B)(1)(introductory paragraph) and (c) and R.S. 15:571.3(A)(1), (B)(1)(a), (2), and (3), and (C), 571.4, 571.5(A), 574.9(E), 828(B), and 833.1(E), to enact R.S. 15:571.3(B)(4), and to repeal Code of Criminal Procedure Article 890.1 and R.S. 15:571.6 and 571.8, relative to diminution of sentence and parole eligibility; to provide for the receipt of credit for prior custody; to provide for inclusion of the Uniform Sentencing Commitment Order in documents accompanying post-sentence sheriff's statement; to provide with respect to the earning of diminution of sentence for certain offenses; to provide for the reorganization of certain provisions of law regarding diminution of sentence; to provide for applicability; to authorize diminution of sentence for certain offenses; to provide for the forfeiture of earned credits toward the reduction of the projected good time parole supervision date; to provide for the forfeiture of credit for time served in actual custody; to provide for the earning of additional credits toward the reduction of the projected good time parole supervision date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

1 Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 880 and 892(B)(1)(introductory  
2 paragraph) and (c) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

3 Art. 880. Credit for prior custody; limitations

4 A. A defendant shall receive credit toward service of his sentence for time  
5 spent in actual custody prior to the imposition of sentence. ~~Under the provisions of~~  
6 ~~this Article, no defendant shall receive more than thirty days of jail credit for any~~  
7 ~~calendar month while serving a term for consecutive sentences.~~

8 B. A defendant shall receive credit only for time in actual custody once  
9 during any calendar month when consecutive sentences are imposed.

10 C. No defendant shall receive credit for any time served prior to the  
11 commission of the crime.

12 D. A defendant shall not receive credit for time served under home  
13 incarceration.

14 E. A defendant shall not receive overlapping jail credit, except in the  
15 instance of concurrent sentences and then only for time spent in jail on the instant  
16 felony.

17 \* \* \*

18 Art. 892. Post-sentence statement by sheriff; accompanying documents

19 \* \* \*

20 B.(1) When a sheriff's statement is required ~~as set forth above~~ pursuant to  
21 Paragraph A of this Article, the clerk of court shall also prepare the following  
22 documents:

23 \* \* \*

24 (c) ~~The name and address of the judge and of the district attorney who~~  
25 ~~participated in the trial.~~ A copy of the Uniform Sentencing Commitment Order in  
26 the format authorized by the Louisiana Supreme Court which shall include the name  
27 and address of the judge, the district attorney, and the defense attorney who  
28 participated in the sentencing trial.

29 \* \* \*

1 Section 2. R.S. 15:571.3(A)(1), (B)(1)(a), (2), and (3), and (C) are hereby amended  
2 and reenacted and R.S. 15:571.3(B)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

3 §571.3. Diminution of sentence for good behavior

4 A.(1) Every prisoner in a parish prison convicted of an offense and sentenced  
5 to imprisonment without hard labor, except a prisoner convicted a second time of a  
6 crime of violence as defined by R.S. 14:2(B) ~~or when the sentencing court has denied~~  
7 ~~or conditioned eligibility for "good time" as provided in R.S. 15:537~~, may earn a  
8 diminution of sentence, to be known as "good time", by good behavior and  
9 performance of work or self-improvement activities, or both. The amount of  
10 diminution of sentence allowed under this Paragraph shall be at the rate of thirty days  
11 for every thirty days in actual custody, except for a prisoner convicted a first time of  
12 a crime of violence, as defined in R.S. 14:2(B), who shall earn diminution of  
13 sentence at the rate of three days for every seventeen days in actual custody held on  
14 the imposed sentence, including in either case time spent in custody with good  
15 behavior prior to sentence for the particular sentence imposed ~~which the prisoner is~~  
16 ~~given credit~~ as authorized by Code of Criminal Procedure Article 880.

17 \* \* \*

18 B.(1)(a) ~~Except as provided in Paragraph (B)(2) of this Section~~ Unless  
19 otherwise prohibited, every inmate in the custody of the department who has been  
20 convicted of a felony, except an inmate convicted a second time of a crime of  
21 violence as defined by R.S. 14:2(B), and sentenced to imprisonment for a stated  
22 number of years or months, ~~or when the sentencing court has denied or conditioned~~  
23 ~~eligibility for "good time" as provided in R.S. 15:537~~, may earn, in lieu of incentive  
24 wages, a diminution of sentence by good behavior and performance of work or  
25 self-improvement activities, or both, to be known as "good time". Those inmates  
26 serving life sentences will be credited with good time earned which will be applied  
27 toward diminution of their sentences at such time as the life sentences might be  
28 commuted to a specific number of years. The secretary shall establish regulations  
29 for awarding and recording of good time and shall determine when good time has



- 1                    (a) Rape (R.S. 14:41).
- 2                    (b) Aggravated rape (R.S. 14:42).
- 3                    (c) Forcible rape (R.S. 14:42.1).
- 4                    (d) Simple rape (R.S. 14:43).
- 5                    (e) Sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.1).
- 6                    (f) Second degree sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.2).
- 7                    (g) Oral sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.3).
- 8                    (h) Intentional exposure to AIDS virus (R.S. 14:43.5).
- 9                    (i) Incest (R.S. 14:78).
- 10                   (j) Aggravated incest (R.S. 14:78.1).
- 11                   (k) Felony carnal knowledge of a juvenile (R.S. 14:80).
- 12                   (l) Indecent behavior with juveniles (R.S. 14:81).
- 13                   (m) Pornography involving juvenile (R.S. 14:81.1).
- 14                   (n) Molestation of a juvenile (R.S. 14:81.2).
- 15                   (o) Computer-aided solicitation of a minor (R.S. 14:81.3).
- 16                   (p) Crime against nature (R.S. 14:89(A)).
- 17                   (q) Aggravated crime against nature (R.S. 14:89.1).
- 18                   (r) Sexual battery of the infirm (R.S. 14:93.5).
- 19                   (4) Diminution of sentence shall not be allowed an inmate in the custody of
- 20                   the Department of Public Safety and Corrections if the inmate has been convicted
- 21                   one or more times under the laws of this state, any other state, or the federal
- 22                   government of any one or more of the following crimes or attempts to commit any
- 23                   of the following crimes:
- 24                   (a) Felony carnal knowledge of a juvenile.
- 25                   (b) Indecent behavior with juveniles.
- 26                   (c) Molestation of a juvenile.
- 27                   (d) Incest.
- 28                   (e) Aggravated incest.

1 C. Diminution of sentence shall not be allowed an inmate in the custody of  
2 the Department of Public Safety and Corrections if any of the following apply:

3 ~~(1) The inmate has been convicted one or more times under the laws of this~~  
4 ~~state of any one or more of the following crimes:~~

5 ~~(a) First degree murder.~~

6 ~~(b) Second degree murder.~~

7 ~~(c) Manslaughter.~~

8 ~~(d) Aggravated battery.~~

9 ~~(e) Aggravated rape.~~

10 ~~(f) Forcible rape.~~

11 ~~(g) Simple rape.~~

12 ~~(h) Aggravated kidnapping.~~

13 ~~(i) Aggravated burglary.~~

14 ~~(j) Simple burglary.~~

15 ~~(k) Armed robbery.~~

16 ~~(l) Simple robbery.~~

17 ~~(m) A violation of R.S. 14:67 which is a felony.~~

18 ~~(n) A violation of R.S. 14:95 which is a felony.~~

19 ~~(o) A violation of R.S. 14:95.1 which is a felony.~~

20 ~~(p) A violation of Chapter 9 of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of~~  
21 ~~1950 which is a felony.~~

22 ~~(q) Any crime of violence as defined by R.S. 14:2(B).~~

23 ~~(r) Looting during the existence of a state of emergency;~~

24 ~~(s) A violation of the Louisiana Controlled Dangerous Substances Law~~  
25 ~~which is a felony; or~~

26 ~~(t) Any felony which is defined as an attempt to commit one of the crimes~~  
27 ~~enumerated in Subparagraphs (a) through (s) of this Paragraph, and~~

1           ~~(2)~~(1) The inmate has been sentenced as an habitual offender under the  
2           Habitual Offender Law as set forth in R.S. 15:529.1, ~~and,~~

3           ~~(3) The inmate's last conviction for the purposes of the Habitual Offender~~  
4           ~~Law, was for a crime: (a) Committed during the period beginning September 16,~~  
5           ~~1975 through September 9, 1977, inclusive of both dates, and the sentence of the~~  
6           ~~court specifically denies eligibility for diminution of sentence, or (b) committed on~~  
7           ~~or after September 10, 1977.~~

8           ~~(4) The inmate has been convicted one or more times under the laws of this~~  
9           ~~state, any other state, or the federal government of any one or more of the following~~  
10          ~~crimes or attempts to commit any of the following crimes:~~

- 11           ~~(a) Carnal knowledge of a juvenile.~~
- 12           ~~(b) Indecent behavior with juveniles.~~
- 13           ~~(c) Molestation of a juvenile.~~
- 14           ~~(d) Incest.~~
- 15           ~~(e) Aggravated incest.~~

16          ~~(5)~~(2) The trial court, in its discretion, prohibits the earning of such  
17          diminution of sentence for any person convicted of a violation of R.S. 14:40.2.

18   \*       \*       \*

19          Section 3. R.S. 15:571.4, 571.5(A), 574.9(E), 828(B), and 833.1(E) are hereby  
20          amended and reenacted to read as follows:

21          §571.4. Forfeiture of diminution of sentence

22                  A. Determination shall be made by the secretary ~~on a monthly basis~~ as to  
23          whether good time or credits toward the reduction of the projected good time parole  
24          supervision date has been earned by inmates in the department's custody. Good time,  
25          or credits toward the reduction of the projected good time parole supervision date,  
26          which has been earned by inmates in the custody of the Department of Public Safety  
27          and Corrections, hereinafter referred to as the "department", shall not be forfeited  
28          except as provided in Subsection D of this Section.

1           B.(1) An inmate who is sentenced to the custody of the Department of Public  
2           Safety and Corrections and who commits a simple or aggravated escape, as defined  
3           in R.S. 14:110, from any correctional facility, work-release facility or from the  
4           lawful custody of any law enforcement officer or officer of the department, or, in the  
5           case of an inmate serving a sentence and participating in a work-release program  
6           authorized by law, fails to report to or return from his planned employment or other  
7           activity under the program may forfeit all good time and credits toward the reduction  
8           of the projected good time parole supervision date earned on that portion of his  
9           sentence served prior to his escape.

10           (2) An inmate who has been returned to the custody of the department  
11           because of a violation of the terms of parole granted by the Board of Parole shall  
12           forfeit all good time earned or credits toward the reduction of the projected good  
13           time parole supervision date on that portion of the sentence served prior to the  
14           granting of parole.

15           (3) An inmate who is sentenced to the custody of the department and who  
16           commits a battery on an employee of the Department of Public Safety and  
17           Corrections or any police officer as defined in R.S. 14:34.2 may forfeit good time  
18           earned or credits toward the reduction of the projected good time parole supervision  
19           date on that portion of the sentence served prior to committing the battery of such  
20           person, up to a maximum of one hundred eighty days.

21           (4) In all other cases, forfeiture of good time or credits toward the reduction  
22           of the projected good time parole supervision date may include up to a maximum of  
23           one hundred eighty days.

24           C. The secretary may promulgate rules and regulations regarding the  
25           restoration of previously forfeited good time for disciplinary violations or credits  
26           toward the reduction of the projected good time parole supervision date. In order to  
27           be eligible for restoration of good time or credits toward the reduction of the  
28           projected good time parole supervision date which has been previously forfeited, the  
29           inmate shall not have been found guilty of any disciplinary violation for a



1 consecutive twenty-four month period. Restoration of previously forfeited good time  
2 or credits toward the reduction of the projected good time parole supervision date  
3 shall not exceed five hundred forty days.

4 D. The department shall adopt rules to govern the imposition of the forfeiture  
5 of good time or credits toward the reduction of the projected good time parole  
6 supervision date for the causes enumerated in Subsection B of this Section and the  
7 restoration of good time or credits toward the reduction of the projected good time  
8 parole supervision date under the conditions enumerated in Subsection C of this  
9 Section. The rules shall be adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure  
10 Act. The rules shall provide that an inmate has the right to a hearing on any charges  
11 which are punishable by the forfeiture of good time or credits toward the reduction  
12 of the projected good time parole supervision date and that the inmate may waive  
13 that right. The rules shall be consistent with and shall implement the provisions of  
14 the constitutional, statutory, and jurisprudential requirements which govern the  
15 forfeiture of good time or credits toward the reduction of the projected good time  
16 parole supervision date.

17 §571.5. Supervision upon release after diminution of sentence for good behavior;  
18 conditions of release; revocation

19 A.~~(1)~~ When a prisoner committed to the Department of Public Safety and  
20 Corrections is released because of diminution of sentence pursuant to this Part, he  
21 shall be released as if released on parole.

22 ~~(2) At least three months prior to the anticipated release due to diminution~~  
23 ~~of sentence, the secretary of the department shall notify the parole board and provide~~  
24 ~~such information as is necessary to allow the board to establish such conditions as~~  
25 ~~provided in R.S. 15:574.4(H) as may be reasonably necessary to facilitate~~  
26 ~~supervision. If diminution of sentence is not prohibited by R.S. 15:571.3(C)(1) and~~  
27 ~~the sentence is for a sexual offense as enumerated in R.S. 15:574.4(H)(2), then the~~  
28 ~~provisions of R.S. 15:574.4(H)(2)(a) and (b) and (3) apply.~~

29 \* \* \*

1 §574.9. Revocation of parole for violation of condition; board panels; return to  
2 custody hearing; duration of reimprisonment and reparole after revocation;  
3 credit for time served; revocation for a technical violation

4 \* \* \*

5 E. When the parole of a parolee has been revoked by the board for the  
6 violation of the conditions of parole, the parolee shall be returned to the physical  
7 custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, corrections services,  
8 and serve the remainder of his sentence as of the date of his release on parole, ~~subject~~  
9 ~~to consideration by the board of any commutation of the sentence~~, and any credit for  
10 time served for good behavior while on parole. The parolee shall be given credit for  
11 time served prior to the revocation hearing ~~whether such time is~~ for time served in  
12 actual custody while being held for a parole violation in a local detention facility,  
13 state institution, or out-of-state institution pursuant to Code of Criminal Procedure  
14 Article 880.

15 \* \* \*

16 §828. Classification and treatment programs; qualified sex offender programs;  
17 reports; ~~additional good time~~ earned credits

18 \* \* \*

19 B. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations for local jail facilities and  
20 state correctional institutions to encourage voluntary participation by inmates in  
21 certified treatment and rehabilitation programs, including but not limited to basic  
22 education, job skills training, values development and faith-based initiatives,  
23 therapeutic programs, and treatment programs. When funds are provided, such  
24 educational programs shall be available at each penal or correctional institution  
25 under the jurisdiction of the department. The rules and regulations may include  
26 provisions for furloughs or the awarding of ~~good time~~, ~~in addition to the provisions~~  
27 ~~of R.S. 15:571.3(B), for offenders who are otherwise eligible~~ earned credits toward  
28 the reduction of the projected good time parole supervision date. Offenders may be  
29 awarded up to ~~one hundred eighty~~ ninety days ~~good time~~ toward the reduction of the

1        projected good time parole supervision date for satisfactory participation in each  
2        approved program pursuant to the provisions of this Subsection, but no offender shall  
3        receive more than ~~five hundred forty days total good time~~ two hundred fifty days  
4        total earned credits toward the reduction of the projected good time parole  
5        supervision date for program participation.

6    \*        \*        \*

7        §833.1. Community resource centers; participation; conditions

8    \*        \*        \*

9                E. Inmates participating in the community resource center shall be eligible  
10             to earn a maximum of thirty days of good time earned credits toward the reduction  
11             of the projected good time parole supervision date in addition to that otherwise  
12             authorized by law for every thirty days of service in this program.

13    \*        \*        \*

14             Section 4. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 890.1 and R.S. 15:571.6 and 571.8  
15             are hereby repealed in their entirety.

16             Section 5. The provisions of Section 2 of this Act shall only apply to those persons  
17             sentenced on or after August 15, 2011.

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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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Lopinto HB No. 414

**Abstract:** Amends provisions of law governing diminution of sentence (good time).

Present law provides for the awarding of credit for prior custody prior to the imposition of sentence at a maximum of 30 days of credit for any calendar month while serving consecutive sentences.

Proposed law changes present law as follows:

- (1) A defendant shall receive credit only for time in actual custody once during any calendar month when consecutive sentences are imposed.
- (2) No defendant shall receive credit for any time served prior to the commission of the crime.
- (3) A defendant shall not receive credit for time served under home incarceration.

- (4) A defendant shall not receive overlapping jail credit, except in the instance of concurrent sentences and then only for time spent in jail on the instant felony.

Proposed law provides that when a sheriff's post-sentence statement is required, the clerk of court shall include in the accompanying documents a copy of the Uniform Sentencing Commitment Order in the format authorized by the La. Supreme Court which shall include the name and address of the judge, the district attorney, and the defense attorney who participated in the sentencing trial.

Present law provides for inmates to earn diminution of sentence (good time) to reduce the amount of time they are incarcerated at a rate of 35 days for every 30 days in actual custody.

Proposed law changes this rate to 1-1/2 days for every one day in actual custody including time spent in custody with good behavior prior to sentence for the particular sentence imposed.

Provides that this provision of proposed law applies only to those persons sentenced on or after Aug. 15, 2011.

Present law provides for a rate of diminution of sentence for a first time offender convicted of a crime of violence of three days for every 17 days in actual custody.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that the awarding of credit for time served will be governed by the provisions of C.Cr.P. Art. 880.

Proposed law reorganizes present law.

(Amends C.Cr.P. Arts. 880 and 892(B)(1)(intro. para.) and (c) and R.S. 15:571.3(A)(1), (B)(1)(a), (2), and (3), and (C), 571.4, 571.5(A), 574.9(E), 828(B), and 833.1(E); Adds R.S. 15:571.3(B)(4); Repeals C.Cr.P. Art. 890.1 and R.S. 15:571.6 and 571.8)

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Deleted provision capping the restoration of previously forfeited good time at 250 days.
2. Changed proposed law regarding diminution of sentence rate to apply only to those persons sentenced on or after Aug. 15, 2011.
3. Made technical changes.
4. Added that good time diminution of sentence shall include time spent in custody with good behavior prior to sentence for the particular sentence imposed.