

Regular Session, 2008

# ACT No. 643

HOUSE BILL NO. 726

BY REPRESENTATIVES HARDY, ABRAMSON, ARMES, AUBERT, AUSTIN, BADON, BALDONE, BARROW, BURRELL, CHAMPAGNE, CORTEZ, DIXON, FRANKLIN, GISCLAIR, ELBERT GUILLORY, HINES, HONEY, GIROD JACKSON, LAFONTA, LEGER, MARCHAND, MILLS, MONTOUCET, MORRELL, NORTON, RITCHIE, ROBIDEAUX, PATRICIA SMITH, AND TRAHAN AND SENATORS ALARIO, BROOME, DORSEY, DUPLESSIS, DUPRE, GRAY, HEITMEIER, LAFLEUR, MICHOT, MURRAY, NEVERS, QUINN, RISER, SHEPHERD, SMITH, AND THOMPSON

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 14:40.5, relative to the public display of a noose for the purpose of  
3 intimidation; to create the crime of public display of a noose with the intent to  
4 intimidate; to provide for penalties; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 14:40.5 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §40.5. Public display of a noose on property of another or public place; intent to  
8 intimidate

9 A. It shall be unlawful for any person, with the intent to intimidate any  
10 person or group of persons, to etch, paint, draw, or otherwise place or display a  
11 hangman's noose on the property of another, a highway, or other public place.

12 B. As used in this Section, "noose" means a rope tied in a slip knot, which  
13 binds closer the more it is drawn, which historically has been used in execution by  
14 hanging, and which symbolizes racism and intimidation.

15 C. Whoever commits the crime of public display of a noose with the intent  
16 to intimidate shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned with  
17 or without hard labor for not more than one year, or both.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.