

Legislative News Release



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LOUISIANA SENATE ADVANCES COLLEGE CAMPUS AND UNIVERSITY OVERSIGHT MEASURES

Baton Rouge, LA – Today, the Louisiana State Senate passed Senate Bill 230 by Sen. Mizell and Senate Bill 232 by Sen. Barrow, which both address reporting related to violence on college and university campuses.

The bills address matters of interpersonal violence intended to control or intimidate another person through the assertion of power over them. Should they become law, they will strengthen reporting requirements, require advanced training for employees and improve coordination with local law enforcement. The bills also provide additional transparency and oversight while maintaining confidentiality for victims.

"This legislation was drafted as a direct response to the committee testimonies heard in the Select Committee on Women and Children, clarifying the loopholes within Act 172," said Senator Mizell, President Pro Tempore of the Senate."

"Many college systems are already taking steps to improve student safety, for which we commend and appreciate their effort, said Senate President Page Cortez. "The advancement of these two instruments will assist our state institutions by setting clear policy for proper oversight, placing the safety and security of our students at the forefront of our priorities as a state."

"I want to thank the members of the Select Committee on Women and Children for their dedication and hard work," said Senator Regina Barrow, Chair of the Select Committee on Women and Children. "Through many long hours and heart-breaking testimonies of those who were affected by the violence and assault that took place and the cover-up that followed, our committee emerged with a better understanding of what needs to be done to assure that this type of behavior never happens again. The Senate sent a resounding message today, standing with the students of our state who deserve to be heard, respected, and protected."

Senate Bills 230 and 232 passed the Senate by a vote of 37-0 and 36-0, respectively, and now both await House introduction.

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Contact Cory Stewart | (225) 342-9795

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Louisiana State Legislature | 900 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

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