

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 325

BY REPRESENTATIVES LOPINTO AND STOKES AND SENATOR GUILLORY

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:19(A) and 20(A)(4)(a) and (B)(introductory paragraph),  
3 relative to the justifiable use of force or violence; to provide that the use of force or  
4 violence is justified in certain circumstances; to provide that the justification applies  
5 when the conflict began; to provide for technical changes; and to provide for related  
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 14:19(A) and 20(A)(4)(a) and (B)(introductory paragraph) are hereby  
9 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §19. Use of force or violence in defense

11 A.(1) The use of force or violence upon the person of another is justifiable  
12 under either of the following circumstances:

13 (a) when When committed for the purpose of preventing a forcible offense  
14 against the person or a forcible offense or trespass against property in a person's  
15 lawful possession, provided that the force or violence used must be reasonable and  
16 apparently necessary to prevent such offense;.

17 (b)(i) When committed by a person lawfully inside a dwelling, a place of  
18 business, or a motor vehicle as defined in R.S. 32:1(40) when the conflict began,  
19 against a person who is attempting to make an unlawful entry into the dwelling,  
20 place of business, or motor vehicle, or who has made an unlawful entry into the  
21 dwelling, place of business, or motor vehicle, and the person using the force or  
22 violence reasonably believes that the use of force or violence is necessary to prevent  
23 the entry or to compel the intruder to leave the dwelling, place of business, or motor  
24 vehicle.



