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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Matt DeVille.

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DIGEST

SB 224 Reengrossed

2021 Regular Session

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Present law provides for the information required to be included on absentee by mail ballot envelope certificate.

Proposed law retains the requirements in present law and additionally requires the certificate to include the voter's Louisiana driver's license or special identification card number or last four digits of the voter's social security number if the voter does not have a Louisiana driver's license or special identification card.

Present law provides for the information required to be included on an application for an absentee by mail ballot.

Proposed law retains the requirements in present law and additionally requires the application to include the voter's Louisiana driver's license or special identification card number or last four digits of the voter's social security number if the voter does not have a Louisiana driver's license or special identification card.

Present law provides for the information required to be included on the affidavit utilized by early voters who do not possess a Louisiana driver's license, special identification card, other generally recognized picture identification card that contains the voter's name and signature, or United States military picture identification card that contains the voter's name and signature.

Proposed law retains the requirements in present law and additionally requires the affidavit to include the last four digits of the voter's social security number.

Present law provides for the verification of the voter information contained on the certificate or flap of the envelope containing an absentee by mail ballot by parish boards of election supervisors during the counting and tabulation process.

Proposed law retains the verification of the information required in present law and further requires verification of the additional voter information required to be provided on the certificate or envelope flap in proposed law.

Present law provides that any person present during the preparation, verification, counting, and tabulation of absentee by mail and early voting ballots may leave the location where the process is taking place or communicate with any person outside until the close of polls, nor shall they possess a cellular telephone or electronic device.

Proposed law retains present law and further expressly prohibits the recordation or dissemination of

any voter information read aloud during the process.

Present law provides for the grounds for challenging an absentee by mail or early voting ballot during the counting preparation and verification process.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides that reasons for challenging an absentee by mail ballot for cause shall include, but not be limited to, the information provided on the certificate or flap of the envelope containing the absentee by mail ballot not matching the voter's information as it appears on his voter registration.

Present law provides for the grounds for challenging an absentee by mail or early voting ballots cast in an election impaired as a result of a declared disaster or emergency during the counting preparation and verification process.

Proposed law deletes present law.

Effective January 1, 2023.

(Amends R.S. 18:1306(E)(1)(f), 1307(A)(9), 1309(D)(1)(b), 1313(E) and (G)(2), 1313.1(E) and (G)(2), and 1315(B); adds R.S. 18:1306(E)(1)(g) and 1307(A)(10))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

##### Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to the original bill

1. Requires additional voter identification information to be provided on an absentee by mail ballot and ballot application.
2. Requires parish board of election supervisors to verify additional required voter information against the voter's registration record during the preparation and verification process for the counting of absentee by mail ballots.
3. Provides for grounds for challenging an absentee by mail ballot for cause.
4. Removes expiring language relative to the challenge of absentee by mail ballots cast during an election impaired by a declared disaster or emergency.

##### Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Prohibit the recordation or dissemination of any voter information read aloud during the process of preparation, verification, counting, and tabulation of absentee by mail and early voting ballots.