

SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 224

2021 Regular Session

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KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

VOTERS/VOTING. Provides for voter identification information and verification requirements. (/1/23)

SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL

- 1 Adds provision that the absentee ballot also bear a certificate certifying that the voter does not possess a valid La. driver's license or special identification card.
- 2. Adds for specific criminal penalties related to prohibited conduct in tabulating and counting ballots.

DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

SB 224 Reengrossed

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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. Further requires that the statement certify that the voter does not possess a Louisiana driver's license or special identification card and has not been issued a social security number, if applicable.

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 issued.

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. Provides that any person who knowingly, willfully, or intentionally violates this prohibition be subject to the criminal penalties applicable to violations of certain mandatory provisions of the Election Code (R.S. 18:1461.7(A)(5)) and any other applicable penalties or remedies otherwise provided by law, including penalties for identify theft (R.S. 14:67.16).

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 (h) and 1307(A)(10))

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