
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alden A. Clement, Jr.

DIGEST

Riser (SB 108)

Present law provides that every bond, tax, or other election at which a proposition or question is to be submitted to the voters must be held on one of the following dates:

- (1) The second to last Saturday in October or the fourth Saturday after the second to last Saturday in October of 1983 and every fourth year thereafter.
- (2) The first Saturday in October or the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even-numbered years.
- (3) The first Saturday in April or the fourth Saturday after the first Saturday in April of any year or on the second or third Saturday in February or fourth Saturday after the second or third Saturday in February, as the case may be, during the presidential election year, if the statewide presidential preference primary election is scheduled on the second or third Saturday in February of the presidential election year; however, commencing in 1994 and every fourth year thereafter, the first Saturday in April shall not be applicable in a parish containing a municipality with a population of 475,000 or more.
- (4) The third Saturday in October or the fourth Saturday after the third Saturday in October of 1985 and every fourth year thereafter.
- (5) For a parish containing a municipality with a population of 475,000 or more, the first Saturday in February or the fourth Saturday after the first Saturday in February in 1986 and every fourth year thereafter.

Proposed law deletes the applicability of present law to bond and tax elections, and further provides that every bond or tax election must be held on the same date as a regularly scheduled primary or general election for statewide or congressional office.

Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides that in case of an emergency, upon application to and approval by the State Bond Commission by two-thirds vote of its total membership, and with approval of the governor, the governing authority of a parish, of a municipality, or of a parish or city school board may conduct a bond or tax election on a Saturday that is not otherwise provided for in present law.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that the taxing authority is limited to holding one emergency bond or tax election per calendar year.

Present law provides that voting machines are to be used throughout this state in all elections, but nothing in present law prohibits absentee by mail and early voting as otherwise provided for in present law.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides that paper ballots may be used when voting machines fail or when all ballot items for an election will not fit on one voting machine.

Effective January 1, 2012.

(Amends R.S. 18:402(F) and 1352)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Changes the date in proposed law for a tax election from the same date as a primary election for statewide or congressional office to the same date as a regularly scheduled primary or general election for statewide or congressional office.
2. Deletes from proposed law the specific provision that a tax election cannot be held on any date on which a special election is held (but retains this exclusion in proposed law via the preceding committee amendment).
3. Adds provision of proposed law that paper ballots may be used when voting machines fail or when all ballot items for an election will not fit on one voting machine.
4. Changes proposed law effective date from upon signature of governor to January 1, 2012.