Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:103(B)(3)(b) and (C)(3)(b), 1306(E)(2), 1307(C), 1308(A)(2), 1308.2, 1310(A)(2), and 1319 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:1307(B)(1)(c) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§103. Personal appearance of applicant required; exceptions

*    *    *

B. Any citizen of Louisiana who meets the qualifications set forth in R.S. 18:101 and who is a legal resident of this state, whether or not he has a place of
abode in this state, but who is unable to appear in person to register because he is in
the United States Service, as defined in R.S. 18:1302, may register by mail using the
state mail voter registration form in accordance with the following provisions:

(3) Upon receipt of the document, the applicant shall:

(b) Return the document by mail, facsimile, or other means of transmission
to the registrar.

C. A person who meets the qualifications set forth in R.S. 18:101(E) who is
unable to appear in person to register because he is residing outside the United States
may register by mail using the state mail voter registration form in accordance with
the following provisions:

(3) Upon receipt of the document, the applicant shall:

(b) Return the document by mail, facsimile, or other means of transmission
to the registrar.

§1306. Preparation and distribution of absentee by mail and early voting ballots

E.

(2)(a) An absentee by mail or early voting ballot envelope flap shall also
contain lines for the handwritten signature of two witnesses. The voter may sign the
certificate in the presence of two witnesses, or one witness if the voter is voting
absentee by mail as authorized by R.S. 18:1303(F) or (I), and in such a case, the
contain a line for the handwritten signature of one witness. The voter may sign the
certificate in the presence of one witness and in such a case, the voter shall not be
required to obtain the signature of a notary public, but his certificate shall be made

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored
are additions.
under penalty of perjury for providing false or fraudulent information. Above the perforation and along the seal line, the words "DO NOT DETACH FLAP" shall be printed.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, a member of the United States Service or person residing outside of the United States who is registered to vote shall not be required to sign the certificate in the presence of one witness or to obtain the signature of a notary public, but his certificate shall be made under penalty of perjury for providing false or fraudulent information.

§1307. Application by mail

B.(1)

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, with respect to members of the United States Service and persons residing outside the United States who are registered to vote, an application to vote by mail may be delivered to the registrar by electronic transmission.

C. If the applicant is a member of the United States Service or resides outside the United States, he may use the federal postcard application or an application electronically transmitted by the registrar or secretary of state, and the application shall be received by the registrar no later than 4:30 p.m. on the day before the election. Such application shall be valid for a period extending from the date the application is received in the office of the registrar of voters through two subsequent regularly scheduled federal general elections. If the registrar rejects the application of an applicant who is a member of the United States Service or resides...
outside the United States, the registrar shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the rejection.

* * *

§1308. Absentee voting by mail

A.

* * *

(2)(a) With respect to registered voters on active duty in the United States military service or outside the continental boundaries of the United States members of the United States Service and persons residing outside the United States who are registered to vote, these materials shall be mailed as provided by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (39 U.S.C. 3406 and 42 U.S.C. 1973ff et seq.) and shall include both the primary election ballot and the special ballot for the general election. The registrar shall mail the materials for candidates for United States senator or United States representative in congressional primary and general elections, candidates for presidential nominee in presidential preference primary elections, and candidates in presidential elections at least forty-five days prior to the election to those voters who have made application to vote absentee by mail by such time.

(b) Notwithstanding the provision of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, with respect to registered voters on active duty in the United States military service or outside the continental boundaries of the United States members of the United States Service and persons residing outside the United States who are registered to vote, these materials may be electronically transmitted for federal candidates for United States senator or United States representative in congressional primary and general election elections and must include the special ballot or ballots as provided in R.S. 18:1306(A)(4) for the federal congressional general election. The registrar shall transmit the materials at least forty-five days prior to the election to those voters who have requested electronic transmission by such time.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, with respect to members of the United States Service and persons residing outside
the United States who are registered to vote, these materials may be electronically
transmitted for candidates for presidential nominee in presidential preference
primary elections and candidates in presidential elections. The registrar shall
transmit the materials at least forty-five days prior to the election to those voters who
have requested electronic transmission by such time.

(d) For mailed ballots, the envelope mailed to the voter shall contain four
envelopes, two of which shall be the ballot envelopes and two of which shall be
return envelopes. Each return envelope shall bear the official title and mailing
address of the registrar, whether it contains a primary or general election ballot, and
the name, return address, and precinct or district number of the voter. The voter shall
return his voted primary election ballot and special ballot for the general election to
the registrar in the appropriate envelopes. The registrar of voters shall not mail a
regular general election absentee ballot to a member of the United States Service or
to persons residing overseas only if the registrar has mailed the special regular
general election absentee ballot includes one or more elections that were not included
on the special ballot sent, as provided herein, to such voter. The envelope for the
special ballot shall contain language on the outside of the envelope that clearly
designates which envelope is to be used for return of the general election ballot.

(e)(i) For each electronically transmitted presidential preference primary,
presidential, congressional primary, and federal congressional general election ballot
ballots, the registrar shall transmit the ballot or ballots, certificate, and waiver of the
right to a secret ballot to the voter for each ballot mailing. The waiver of the right
to a secret ballot shall contain the following statement: "My ballot was transmitted
electronically to me and I am voluntarily waiving my right to a secret ballot.” The
statement shall also contain a space for the voter's handwritten signature, the date,
and the voter's social security number. The voter shall return by mail his voted ballot
or ballots, completed certificate, and signed waiver of the right to a secret ballot for
each ballot mailing. The registrar and his staff shall take the steps necessary to keep
each voted ballot that was transmitted electronically as confidential as practicable.
(ii) The voter may use the a separate "Security Envelope" and ballot transmittal envelope from the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot to mail the electronically transmitted federal presidential preference primary, presidential, congressional primary, or congressional general election ballot or ballots, and certificate, and waiver of the right to a secret ballot to the parish registrar of voters for each ballot mailing.

(e) (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraphs (a), (b), and (d) of this Paragraph, a voter who is on active duty in the United States military service or residing outside the United States continental boundaries a member of the United States Service or who resides outside the United States and who feels he will not have time to vote timely by mail, may request that the registrar transmit to him by facsimile a ballot, including the certificate, or a second ballot, as the case may be, and the registrar shall do so. The voter may then either mail or transmit by facsimile his voted ballot and certificate back to the registrar at the facsimile machine number designated by the registrar. If the voter chooses to transmit his voted ballot to the registrar by facsimile, the documents to be transmitted shall contain the following statement: "I understand that by faxing my voted ballot I am voluntarily waiving my right to a secret ballot." This statement shall be followed by the voter's handwritten signature, date, and social security number. Upon receipt of the transmittal, the registrar shall place the voted ballot along with the signed statement and certificate in an appropriately marked envelope and seal it. The registrar and his staff shall take the steps necessary to keep the voted ballots received by facsimile as confidential as practicable.

(g) The secretary of state as the chief election officer of the state shall take all actions reasonably necessary to allow persons residing outside the continental boundaries and persons on active duty in the armed forces members of the United States Service and persons residing outside the United States to vote according to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act or otherwise during a period of declared emergency, whether by mail, facsimile, or other means.
of transmission of the ballot, notwithstanding any provision of this Code to the contrary.

* * *

§1308.2. Voting absentee by mail for candidates for presidential nominee, presidential candidates, and congressional candidates

A.(1) At least forty-five forty-six days before each presidential election, the secretary of state shall deliver to each registrar a sufficient quantity of absentee by mail ballots, envelopes, certificates, and instructions, including those to be electronically transmitted, for the election of the president of the United States to be used only by members of the United States Service, as defined in R.S. 18:1302, and persons residing outside the United States who are registered to vote pursuant to R.S. 18:103(C), for the election of the president of the United States, including ballots, certificates, and instructions to be electronically transmitted to the voters. The absentee by mail ballot shall be prepared according to law and shall contain only presidential candidates. The absentee by mail ballot envelope shall be marked "Presidential Ballot Only".

(2) At least forty-five forty-six days before each congressional primary and general election, the secretary of state shall deliver to each registrar a sufficient quantity of primary election absentee by mail ballots for congressional candidates and special absentee by mail ballots for congressional candidates as provided in R.S. 18:1306(A)(4), envelopes, certificates, and instructions, including those to be electronically transmitted, to be used only by members of the United States Service; as defined in R.S. 18:1302; and persons residing outside the United States who are registered to vote, pursuant to R.S. 18:103(C), for the election of the members of congress, including special ballots, certificates, and instructions to be electronically transmitted to the voters.

(3) At least forty-six days before each presidential preference primary election, the secretary of state shall deliver to each registrar a sufficient quantity of absentee by mail ballots, envelopes, certificates, and instructions, including those to be electronically transmitted, for candidates for presidential nominee to be used only
by members of the United States Service and persons residing outside the United
States who are registered to vote.

B. Voting absentee by mail for candidates for presidential nominee,
presidential candidates, and congressional candidates as provided in Subsection A
hereof of this Section shall be conducted pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter
governing absentee by mail voting generally.

§1310. Execution of certificate; marking of ballot; casting vote; assistance
A.

(2) When a member of the United States Service, as defined in R.S. 18:1302,
or a person residing outside the United States who is registered to vote receives the
absentee voting materials by electronic transmission, he first shall print all
documents and fill in all blanks on the certificate and the waiver of the right to a
secret ballot for each ballot mailing. The voter then shall mark the ballot or ballots
according to the printed instructions on its face. The voter shall then place the voted
ballot or ballots, completed certificate, and waiver of the right to a secret ballot in an
for each ballot mailing in a separate envelope, seal the envelope, mark "Absentee
Ballot Enclosed" on the envelope, and mail the envelope and its contents to the
registrar of voters.

§1319. Use of Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot; presidential preference primary,
presidential, and congressional elections

A member of the United States Service, as defined in R.S. 18:1302; or a
person residing outside the United States who made a timely application to vote
absentee by mail as provided in R.S. 18:1307(C) and who did not receive absentee
by mail ballots may use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to vote for
candidates for presidential nominee, presidential elections candidates, and
congressional elections candidates. The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot shall be
submitted, processed, and counted in the manner provided in this Chapter.
Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: ____________________