Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 521

BY REPRESENTATIVE IVEY

ELECTIONS: Provides relative to federal elections

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:401, 402(B), (E)(1)(b) and (2)(b), and (F)(2), 467(2), 481, 511(A) and (B), 1272(A), and 1355(6) and to enact R.S. 18:1275.1 through 1275.23, relative to elections; to provide for the system of elections for congressional offices; to provide for a party primary; to provide relative to procedures and requirements for voting; to provide for the application of certain provisions of the Louisiana Election Code to congressional elections; to provide for election dates; to provide relative to qualification of candidates for primary and general elections; to provide relative to objections to candidacy; to provide relative to the election of candidates in a primary and general election; to provide relative to election materials; to provide relative to voting machines; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:401, 402(B), (E)(1)(b) and (2)(b), and (F)(2), 467(2), 481, 511(A) and (B), 1272(A), and 1355(6) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:1275.1 through 1275.23 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§401. Purpose and nature of primary and general elections

A. Purpose. Primary and general elections are held to elect persons to ~~Congress~~ <u>congress</u> and to all the elective offices in this state, except the office of presidential elector.

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B. Nature. ~~All~~ (1) Except for the election of persons to congress, all qualified voters of this state may vote on candidates for public office in primary and general elections without regard to the voter's party affiliation or lack of it, and all candidates for public office who qualify for a primary or general election may be voted on without regard to the candidate's party affiliation or lack of it.

(2) In the election of persons to congress, the following shall apply:

(a) In primary elections, recognized political parties shall make all nominations of candidates by direct primary elections held under the provisions of this Chapter. In primary elections, each qualified voter may vote only on the candidates for public office who are affiliated with the same political party with which the voter is affiliated. In primary elections, each qualified voter who is not affiliated with a recognized political party may choose to vote in one recognized political party's primary elections, except as otherwise provided by R.S. 18:1275.1.

(b) In general elections, each qualified voter of this state may vote for candidates for public office without regard to the voter's party affiliation or lack thereof, and all candidates for public office who qualify for a general election may be voted on without regard to the candidates' party affiliation or lack thereof.

§402. Dates of primary and general elections

* * *

B. Congressional elections. Elections for members of congress and officers elected at the same time as members of congress shall be held every two years, beginning in 1982.

(1) Primary elections for members of congress and officers elected at the same time as members of congress shall be held on the first ~~Tuesday after the first Monday in November~~ Saturday in October of an election year.

(2) General elections for members of congress and officers elected at the same time as members of congress shall be held on the ~~fifth Saturday after the~~ first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of an election year.

* * *

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E. Special elections to fill newly created office or vacancy in office. An election to fill a newly created office or vacancy in an existing office, except the office of representative in congress, shall be held on the dates fixed by the appropriate authority in the proclamation ordering a special election as follows:

(1) A special primary election shall be held on the first of the following days that is after the date on which the proclamation calling the special primary election was issued, provided that the proclamation was issued at least four weeks prior to the opening of the qualifying period for the special primary election:

* * *

(b) The first ~~Tuesday after the first Monday in November~~ Saturday in October, when the special general election is held on the ~~fifth Saturday after the~~ first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

* * *

(2) A special general election shall be held on one of the following days:

* * *

(b) The ~~fifth Saturday after the~~ first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even-numbered years.

* * *

F. Bond, tax, or other elections. Every bond, tax, or other election at which a proposition or question is to be submitted to the voters shall be held only on one of the following dates:

* * *

(2)(a) The first ~~Tuesday after the first Monday in November~~ Saturday in October or the ~~fifth Saturday after the~~ first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even-numbered years.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, the ~~fifth Saturday after the~~ first Tuesday after the first Monday in November shall not be applicable in a parish containing a municipality with a population of three hundred thousand or more for an election relative to a parcel fee imposed within a

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security or neighborhood improvement district. For purposes of this Subparagraph, "security or neighborhood improvement district" means a special district one of the primary purposes of which is aiding in crime prevention and adding to the security of district residents by providing for an increased presence of law enforcement personnel in the district or otherwise promoting and encouraging security in the district.

* * *

§467. Opening of qualifying period

The qualifying period for candidates in a primary election shall open:

* * *

(2) For candidates in a congressional primary election and those in any special primary election to be held at the same time, on the ~~third~~ first Wednesday in August of the year of the election.

* * *

§481. Candidates who qualify for a general election

~~The~~ Except for candidates for United States senator or representative in congress, the candidates who qualify for each office remaining to be filled in the general election are those who received the two highest numbers of votes, the four highest number of votes, and so on among those not elected in the primary election, until the maximum number of candidates for each office on the general election ballot is reached.

* * *

§511. Election of candidates in a primary election; exception, congressional candidates

A. Majority vote. A candidate other than a candidate for United States senator or representative in congress who receives a majority of the votes cast for an office in a primary election is elected. If there are two or more offices of the same character to be filled, the number of votes necessary to constitute a majority shall be greater than the result obtained by dividing the total votes cast for all of the

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candidates by the number of offices to be filled and dividing the result so obtained by two. If more candidates receive a majority than there are offices to be filled, those of such candidates receiving the highest total of votes shall be elected, to the number required to fill all of the offices. Any votes received by a withdrawn candidate or a deceased candidate shall be void and shall not be counted for any purpose whatsoever.

B. Election of unopposed candidates for public office. If, after the close of the qualifying period for candidates in a primary election, other than a primary election for United States senator or representative in congress, the number of candidates for a public office does not exceed the number of persons to be elected to the office, the candidates for that office, or those remaining after the withdrawal of one or more candidates, are declared elected by the people, and their names shall not appear on the ballot in either the primary or the general election.

* * *

§1272. United States senators; representatives in congress; time of electing

A. All primary and general elections for representatives in congress shall be held ~~on the fifth Saturday after the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even-numbered years. The primary election shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of an election year~~ as provided in R.S. 18:402(B).

* * *

§1275.1. Purpose and nature of congressional primary and general elections

A. Nature of primary elections. All recognized political parties shall make all nominations of candidates for United States senator or representative in congress by direct primary elections held under the provisions of this Part and applicable general election law. In congressional primary elections, each qualified voter of this state may vote only on the candidates for public office who are affiliated with the same political party with which the voter is affiliated. In congressional primary elections, each qualified voter of this state who is not affiliated with a recognized

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political party may choose to vote in a recognized political party's primary elections, unless the state central committee of such political party in its rules and regulations prohibits unaffiliated voters from participating in its primary elections. If a recognized political party prohibits unaffiliated voters from participating in its primary elections, the state central committee of such party shall give written notice to the secretary of state of such prohibition, including a copy of the rules and regulations containing such prohibition, no later than January first of the year in which regularly scheduled congressional elections are to be held, or no later than the forty-sixth day prior to a special primary election. The notice, once filed with the secretary of state, shall be effective until the recognized political party notifies the secretary of state in writing of a change. Any such notice of a change shall be filed with the secretary of state no later than January first of the year in which regularly scheduled congressional elections are to be held, or no later than the forty-sixth day prior to a special primary election. Should more than one political party not prohibit nonaffiliated voters to participate in the primary, the participating voter shall select only one party ballot to vote on in the primary election.

B. Nature of congressional general elections. Each qualified voter of this state may vote on candidates for United States senator and representative in congress in general elections without regard to the voter's party affiliation or lack thereof, and all candidates for such offices who qualify for a general election may be voted on without regard to the candidates' party affiliation or lack thereof.

C. The provisions of this Code shall govern any matter related to congressional elections not otherwise specifically provided for in this Part.

§1275.3. Manner of qualifying for the primary election

A. A person who desires to become a candidate in the primary election shall qualify as provided in Part IV of Chapter 5 of this Code except as otherwise provided in this Section.

B. Party affiliation required. A person who desires to become a candidate in the primary election must be affiliated with a recognized political party. A person

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may qualify as a candidate only in the primary election of the party with which he is affiliated as shown on his voter registration.

C. Qualifying official. Candidates shall qualify for the primary election with the secretary of state or a person in his office designated to receive qualifying papers.

D. Notice of candidacy. (1) A notice of candidacy shall be in writing and shall state the candidate's name, the office he seeks, the address of his domicile, the parish, ward, and precinct where he is registered to vote, and the political party with which he is registered as being affiliated.

(2) A notice of candidacy, accompanied either by the qualifying fee or by a nominating petition, is filed timely only if received by the secretary of state during the qualifying period for candidates in the primary election.

E. Nominating petition. (1) A nominating petition shall be filed with the official with whom the candidate qualifies and shall accompany the notice of candidacy.

(2) A person may only be nominated as a candidate in the primary election by persons within the same political party who are registered to vote on the office he seeks who sign a nominating petition for him no more than one hundred twenty days before the qualifying period opens for candidates in the primary election. In addition to his signature, each voter who signs a nominating petition shall date his signature and shall provide the ward and precinct in which he is registered to vote, his residence address, including the municipal number, the apartment number, if any, the rural route and box number, or any other physical description that will identify his actual place of residence and his political party affiliation. Once a voter has signed a nominating petition, he may not withdraw the nomination. The secretary of state shall prepare forms which may be used by any person who seeks to be nominated by nominating petition as a candidate for United States senator or representative in congress. The secretary of state shall furnish copies of the forms to each clerk of court, and the forms shall be available, upon request, at the office of the secretary of state or at the office of the clerk of court. Nothing in this Subsection shall be

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construed to require nominating petitions to be filed only on forms prepared by the secretary of state.

(3) The registrar for each parish shall endorse upon the nominating petitions, whether original or supplemental, the date and time of submission and shall promptly certify the nominating petitions, in the order received, by determining and certifying on each nominating petition which of the signers who provided a residence address in the parish signed the nominating petition timely, are registered with the same political party as the candidate, and are entitled to vote on the office the candidate seeks. A supplemental nominating petition shall be certified in the order in which it is received, without regard to the time when the original nominating petition for that candidate was submitted. A registrar may stop certifying the signatures on a nominating petition when the total number of the signers he has certified as having signed the petition timely, as being registered to vote on the office the candidate seeks, and as affiliated with the candidate's political party equals one hundred fifteen percent of the number of qualified voters required to nominate the candidate for the office he seeks. A registrar's certification shall be conclusive as to the number of qualified voters who timely signed a nominating petition, and evidence to the contrary shall not be admitted in an action objecting to the candidacy of the candidate who filed the nominating petition.

§1275.5. Reopening of qualifying period; effect

A. When a person who qualified as a candidate in the primary election for the office of senator or representative in congress dies after the close of the qualifying period and before the time for closing the polls on the day of the primary election, the qualifying period for candidates in the primary election for that office shall reopen for the party of the candidate who died on the day after the death and shall close at 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the death or, if that day is a legal holiday, at 5:00 p.m. on the next day which is not a legal holiday. The name of the deceased candidate shall not be printed on the primary election ballot. If the primary election ballot was printed with the deceased candidate's name on it, any votes

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received by the deceased candidate shall be void and shall not be counted for any purpose whatsoever.

B. When, at the close of the qualifying period, no candidate has qualified for an office, the qualifying period shall be reopened, but only for the office for which no candidates qualified, on the first Wednesday after the close of the qualifying period and shall close at 5:00 p.m. on the Friday thereafter or, if that day is a legal holiday, at 5:00 p.m. on the next day which is not a legal holiday.

C. Whenever the qualifying period is reopened as required by Subsections A or B of this Section, the secretary of state shall cause notice of the reopening, listing the dates and times the period shall run, to be published in the official journal of the state.

D. Effect on primary election. (1) If the qualifying period for candidates reopens for any recognized political party within thirty days before a primary election, all the votes cast in the primary election for that public office shall be void, unless the qualifying period for the office reopened and closed without additional candidates qualifying for the office. If additional candidates qualify for the office and the votes for the primary will be void for that reason, the secretary of state shall immediately publish in the official journal of the state a notice to the electorate that the election for that office has been voided because new candidates qualified. Such notice shall include the dates for the rescheduled primary and general elections.

(2) If all the votes cast in a primary election for a public office are void because of the death of a candidate, the primary election for the office shall be held on the date of the general election, and the general election for the office shall be held on the fifth Saturday after the primary election.

§1275.7. Nomination of candidates in a primary election; general election; unopposed candidate

A. If, after the close of the qualifying period for candidates in a primary election, only one candidate qualifies for nomination by a recognized political party for an office or only one candidate for nomination by a recognized political party for

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an office remains after the withdrawal of one or more candidates, such candidate shall be declared the nominee of the party, and his name shall be on the ballot for the general election. If the primary election ballot was printed with the name of a candidate who withdrew on it, any votes received by a candidate who withdrew shall be void and shall not be counted for any purpose whatsoever.

B. If, after the close of the qualifying period for candidates for the public office of United States senator or representative in congress and, if applicable, after the expiration of the time period for a recognized political party to select a nominee pursuant to R.S. 18:1275.13(B) only one candidate qualifies for the primary election or general election or only one candidate remains after the withdrawal of one or more candidates, such candidate shall be declared elected by the people at the close of the polls on the day of the general election, and his name shall not appear on the ballot in a primary, if applicable, and such candidate's name shall not appear on the general election ballot.

§1275.9. Qualifications of voters

All persons who have registered to vote in this state prior to the time the registration records are closed as required in R.S. 18:135 may vote in congressional primary elections as provided in R.S. 18:1275.1.

§1275.11. Prerequisites to voting

The provisions of R.S. 18:562 shall be applicable to all congressional primary elections and congressional general elections. Additionally, any person who desires to vote in any primary election shall also give his party affiliation, if any, to a commissioner, who shall announce the applicant's name, address, and party affiliation, if any, to the persons at the polling place.

§1275.13. Effect of tie vote, withdrawal or death of a candidate

A. If one or more of the persons who qualified for the primary election withdraws his candidacy, dies, or is otherwise disqualified, thereby leaving only one candidate from the same political party in the race, the remaining candidate shall be declared the nominee of the party.

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B.(1) The state central committee of a recognized political party may provide for the selection of a nominee in either of the following situations:

(a) When a candidate withdraws after the close of the qualifying period and before the time for closing the polls on the day of the primary election, thereby leaving the recognized political party with no nominee.

(b) When a candidate dies before the time for closing the polls on the day of the primary election, thereby leaving the recognized political party with no nominee.

(2) The state central committee shall provide a notarized notice of the selection of such nominee to the secretary of state, which notice shall be delivered to the secretary of state within ten days of the death or withdrawal or by 4:30 p.m. on the third calendar day after the primary election, whichever occurs first.

C. There shall be no second primary. In the case of a tie vote in the primary, the party's nominee for the general election shall be selected by a public drawing of lots conducted by the secretary of state.

§1275.15. Candidates who qualify for a general election

All nominations by recognized political parties for the general election shall be in accordance with the provisions relative to primary elections. The candidate from a recognized political party who receives the highest number of votes cast in the primary shall be the party nominee and qualify for the general election. If there is only one candidate remaining after the death or withdrawal of a candidate after the primary, the remaining candidate from the recognized political party shall be the party nominee and qualify for the general election. A nominee selected in accordance with R.S. 18:1275.13(B) or (C) shall qualify for the general election.

§1275.17. Number of candidates who may qualify for a general election

The number of candidates for an office who may qualify for the general election by party nomination is one candidate from each recognized political party.

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§1275.19. Candidates not affiliated with a recognized political party; qualifying for the general election

A. Any person desiring to become a candidate in a general election who is not registered as being affiliated with a recognized political party shall file his notice of candidacy which shall be accompanied by either a ballot access petition or by the qualifying fee required for state candidates as provided in R.S. 18:464. The number of signatures required on a ballot access petition shall be the same as the number required for candidates seeking nomination by a nominating petition for the same office in the primary election.

B. The ballot access petition shall comply with all of the requirements of this Code relative to nominating petitions except as otherwise specifically provided for in this Part. No person affiliated with a recognized political party shall be eligible to sign a ballot access petition.

C. The notice of candidacy shall comply with all of the requirements of this Code relative to notice of candidacy except as otherwise specifically provided for in this Part.

D. The time of qualifying and the official with whom a candidate qualifies shall be in accordance with all of the provisions of this Code relative to qualifying for a primary election except as otherwise specifically provided for in this Part.

§1275.21. Objecting to candidacy of person not affiliated with a recognized political party

The provisions of this Code relative to objections to candidacy for candidates in a primary election shall apply to an action objecting to candidacy of a person who qualified pursuant to R.S. 18:1275.19 in the same manner as if the person had qualified for the primary election.

§1275.23. Ballots

A. Preparation. The secretary of state shall prepare and certify the absentee ballots and the ballots to be used on the voting machines in the primary and general elections in the manner provided in R.S. 18:551 except as provided in this Section.

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B. Names and numbers of candidates. The names of the candidates in any primary or general election shall be printed on the ballot as follows:

(1) In any primary election only the names of candidates who qualified for election and were not subsequently disqualified by a judgment rendered in an action objecting to candidacy or who were not unopposed shall be printed on the ballot. The name of each candidate shall be printed on the ballot in the form designated by the candidate in his notice of candidacy on file with the secretary of state. The parties shall be arranged alphabetically, and under such party affiliation, the names of the candidates for each office shall be listed alphabetically by surname within each party and printed below the title of the office and below the respective party designation. The names of the candidates shall be numbered from first to last. Once the secretary of state has assigned numbers to the candidates on the primary election ballot, the numbers shall not be changed. If the qualifying period reopens because of the death of a candidate, additional candidates who qualify for the primary election shall be given the numbers following the number assigned to the last candidate on the ballot. If two or more candidates have the same surname, the word "Incumbent" shall be printed after the name of each candidate having the same surname who is an incumbent and the residence address shall be printed after the name of each candidate having the same surname who is not an incumbent.

(2) In a general election, only the names of the candidates who qualified for election and who were not subsequently disqualified by a judgment rendered in an action objecting to candidacy shall be printed on the ballot, and the names shall be printed in the same form as they were printed on the ballot for the primary election. The names of candidates who qualified pursuant to R.S. 18:1275.19 shall be as they appear on the notice of candidacy. The names of the candidates for each office shall be arranged alphabetically by surname, and shall be listed below the title of the office. The political party designation of a candidate shall be listed on the ballot as provided in R.S. 18:551(D). The names of the candidates shall be given the same number assigned to them on the primary election ballot. Additional candidates who

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qualify who were not on the primary election ballot shall be given the numbers following the number assigned to the last candidate on the ballot for the primary election.

* * *

§1355. Construction and equipment of machines; requirements

Each voting machine used in an election shall be so constructed and equipped as to:

* * *

(6) When used in a congressional primary election or primary election at which members of a political party committee are to be voted on, allow election officials to lock out all candidate counters except those of the party with which the voter is affiliated or those of the party for which a voter unaffiliated with a recognized political party may vote in accordance with law.

* * *

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.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Ivey HB No. 521

Abstract: Provides for party primary elections for the election of members to the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

Present law, relative to elections, provides that all qualified voters of this state may vote on candidates for public office in primary and general elections without regard to the voter's party affiliation or lack of it, and that all candidates for public office who qualify for a primary and general election may be voted on without regard to the candidate's party affiliation or lack of it. Present law further provides that if a candidate receives a majority in a primary election, he is elected. Present law provides that no candidate received a majority in the primary election, the candidates who qualify for the general election are those who received the two highest number of votes.

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Proposed law specifies that the present law provisions of the election code govern congressional elections in any matter not otherwise provided by proposed law. Proposed law provides that for election of members to the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate that, the following shall apply instead:

(1) Proposed law provides that all recognized political parties shall make nominations of all congressional candidates by direct party primary elections. Provides that in such party primary elections, all qualified voters of this state may vote only on the candidates for public office who are affiliated with the same political party with which the voter is affiliated. Provides for qualified voters not affiliated with a recognized political party to choose to vote in one recognized political party's primary election. Further provides that in congressional primary elections each qualified voter who is not affiliated with a recognized political party may choose to vote in a recognized political party's primary elections, unless the state central committee of such political party in its rules and regulations prohibits unaffiliated voters from participating in its primary elections. Provides that if a recognized political party prohibits unaffiliated voters from participating in its primary election, the state central committee of such party shall give written notice to the secretary of state of such prohibition, including a copy of the rules and regulations containing such prohibition, no later than Jan. first of the year in which regularly scheduled congressional elections are to held and no later than 46 days prior to a special primary election.

Proposed law provides that all qualified voters may vote on candidates for public office in general elections without regard to the voter's party affiliation or lack thereof, and all candidates for public office who qualify for a general election may be voted on without regard to the candidate's party affiliation or lack thereof. (Note: As provided in present law (R.S. 18:512) for a general election, the candidate with the most votes is elected.)

(2) Present law provides that the congressional primary election for members of congress and officers elected at the same time as members of congress shall be on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November and that the congressional general election shall be held on the fifth Saturday after the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even- numbered year. Proposed law provides that the congressional primary election shall be on the first Saturday in October and the congressional general election shall be the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year and makes the same change relative to available dates for special elections and bond, tax, or other elections.

(3) Present law provides that the qualifying period for candidates in a congressional primary election and any special primary election held at the same time opens on the third Wednesday in August of the year of the election. Proposed law changes the opening of the qualifying period to the first Wednesday in August.

(4) Proposed law provides that a candidate in a congressional primary election shall be affiliated with a recognized political party and may qualify as a candidate only in the party primary of the party with which he is affiliated as shown on his voter registration.

(8) Proposed law provides that the manner of qualifying for the primary election is the same as provided in present law except candidates shall qualify for the primary election with the secretary of state or a person in his office designated to receive qualifying papers and the notice of candidacy shall be in writing and shall state the candidate's name, the office he seeks, the address of his domicile, the parish, ward, and precinct where he is registered to vote, and the political party with which he is registered as being affiliated. Provides that the notice of candidacy shall be accompanied either by the qualifying fee or by a nominating petition and is filed

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timely only if received by the secretary of state during the qualifying period for candidates in the primary election. Requires designation of party affiliation for signers of a nominating petition for a candidate and provides that only persons in the same party as the candidate are eligible to sign the nominating petition. Provides procedures for the form and certifications of the petitions.

(9) Proposed law provides that when qualifying is reopened due to the death of a congressional candidate in a primary election, the qualifying shall be open only for the party of the candidate who died. Specifies the time for such reopening. Further provides for rescheduling of the primary and general election in such cases.

(10) Proposed law provides that if after the close of qualifying, the number of persons to be nominated by a recognized political party for a congressional office does not exceed the number of persons to be nominated by that party, those persons are declared nominated and their names shall appear on the general election ballot. Provides for the election of an unopposed candidate by declaring such candidate elected by the people at the close of polls on the day of the general election and specifies that his name shall not appear on any ballot.

(11) Proposed law provides that in the case of a tie vote in the party primary the party's nominee for the general election shall be selected by public drawing of lots conducted by the secretary of state.

(12) Proposed law provides that if one of the congressional candidates dies or withdraws before the close of polls on the day of the primary leaving no nominee for the party, the state central committee shall provide for the selection of a nominee of their party and shall notify the secretary of state within 10 days of the death or withdrawal or by 4:30 p.m. on the third calendar day after the primary, whichever occurs first.

(13) Proposed law provides that a person who is not affiliated with a recognized political party may become a candidate in a general election by filing his notice of candidacy which shall be accompanied by either a ballot access petition or the qualifying fee with the same number of signatures required on a nominating petition for candidates in the primary, in the same manner and during the same time period as is provided for candidates in the primary who are affiliated with a recognized political party. Further provides that a person affiliated with a recognized political party shall not be eligible to sign a ballot access petition.

(14) Proposed law provides that present law relative to objections to candidacy applies to congressional candidates unaffiliated with a recognized political party who qualify for the general election in the same manner as if the candidate qualified for the primary election.

(15) Provides that the secretary of state shall prepare the ballots as provided in present law (R.S. 18:551) except that for the primary election ballot the parties shall be arranged alphabetically, and under such party affiliation, the names of the candidates for each office shall be listed alphabetically by surname within each party and printed below the title of the office and below the respective party designation and the names of the candidates shall be numbered from first to last. For the general election, provides that additional candidates who qualify and who were not on the primary election ballot shall be given the numbers following the number assigned to the last candidate on the ballot for the primary election.

(16) Provides that the prerequisites to voting in the elections are the same as provided in present law (R.S. 18:562), except that a voter shall also give his party affiliation, if any, to the commissioner who shall announce the applicant's name, address, and party affiliation, if any to the persons at the polling place.

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(17) Relative to voting machines, proposed law specifies that they be constructed and equipped, when used in a congressional primary election or primary election at which members of a political party committee are to be voted on, to allow election officials to lock out all candidate counters except those of the party with which the voter is affiliated or those of the party for which a voter unaffiliated with a recognized political party may vote in accordance with proposed law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 18:401, 402(B), (E)(1)(b) and (2)(b), and (F)(2), 467(2), 481, 511(A) and (B), 1272(A), and 1355(6); Adds R.S. 18:1275.1-1275.23)

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