

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 176 (HB 544)

2017 Regular Session

Danahay

Existing law (R.S. 18:3) provides requirements for any petition submitted to a registrar of voters for certification. Provides that a petition must include certain information, including a handwritten signature of the voter; the date the voter signed the petition; the signer's ward, precinct, and date of birth; the registration address of the signer; and certain information concerning the person who witnessed and obtained the signature.

Prior law additionally required a petition to include the signer's district.

New law repeals prior law.

Existing law (R.S. 18:18) provides for the powers and duties of the secretary of state. Requires the secretary of state to develop activities, events, informational posters and pamphlets, and public service announcements for the implementation of an annual voter registration week and to be generally responsible for implementation of such week. Provides for when the official state voter registration week occurs.

Prior law provided that in odd-numbered years, voter registration week was the last full week which occurred two weeks prior to the close of registration records for the regular fall primary election. Provided that in even-numbered years, voter registration week was the second full week in May.

New law provides instead that in years when the president of the United States proclaims a National Voter Registration Day, voter registration week is the week in which the National Voter Registration Day occurs. Provides that in years when the president does not proclaim a National Voter Registration Day, registration week is two weeks prior to the close of registration records for the regular fall primary election.

Existing law (R.S. 18:25) requires the State Bd. of Election Supervisors to regularly review all election laws and all procedures used in conducting elections. Requires the board to annually report to the House and Governmental Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives and the Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee of the Senate its findings, observations, and recommendations concerning all aspects of elections. Provides that the report shall include the following subjects: election laws in general, registration procedures, election procedures, election officials, voting machines, tabulation and transmission of election returns, procedures used for casting and counting absentee by mail and early voting ballots, and any other aspect of elections the board deems appropriate.

Prior law required the annual report to be submitted no later than Jan. 15th.

New law changes the reporting deadline to Jan. 31st.

Existing law (R.S. 18:59.4) establishes the La. Voter Registration Administrators' Certification program to formalize and recognize the professional standards of registrars of voters, chief deputy registrars, and confidential assistants to registrars of voters. Provides for education and training through courses administered by Auburn University and the Election Center. Provides for an increase in salary for certification and renewal of certification. Provides that the salary increase for certification is lost if not renewed within a certain number of years.

Prior law provided that the salary increase was lost if certification was not renewed every five years.

New law provides instead that the salary increase is lost if certification is not renewed every three years.

Existing law (R.S. 18:104) requires the secretary of state, subject to approval by the attorney general as to content, to prescribe the form to be used uniformly by each registrar in the state and any person authorized to accept voter registration applications in registering qualified citizens to vote. Specifies certain information that must be included on the form.

New law specifies that certain information on the form will be used to assess eligibility and that the remaining information is to be used to identify the applicant at the polls. Adds the following information to the form: race (on a voluntary basis), electronic mail address, telephone number, and former registered name, if applicable. Requires the form to include the questions "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?" and "Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day?" and the statement "If you checked 'no' in response to either of these questions, do not complete the form." Specifies that only a single party affiliation may be provided.

Prior law required the form to include space for changes of address within the parish, changes of name, changes of party affiliation, dates of any of these, and remarks. Provided that the form may have included father's middle name, name of spouse, occupation, and employer as information to be used for identification of the applicant at the polls.

New law repeals prior law.

Existing law (R.S. 18:107) provides relative to political party affiliation. Provides procedures for designating political party affiliation or lack thereof during voter registration. Provides procedures for changing a registrant's declaration of political party affiliation.

New law additionally provides that a registrant may not be designated as being affiliated with more than one party at the same time.

Existing law (R.S. 18:114) requires voter registration services to be available at all driver's license facilities in the state. Provides generally that an application for a driver's license or identification card issued by the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections also serves as an application for voter registration unless the applicant declines to register to vote through specific declination or by failing to sign the voter registration application. Requires employees at driver's license facilities to offer voter registration to each person making an application for a driver's license or identification card and, upon request, to provide assistance to a person who wants to register to vote.

New law additionally requires employees at driver's license facilities to obtain written and signed confirmation of any declination of the offer of voter registration.

Existing law (R.S. 18:193) provides a challenge procedure to be used by the registrar of voters when he has reason to believe that a registrant no longer is qualified to be registered or that a registrant has changed his residence. Requires the registrar to send the registrant an address confirmation card and to place the registrant on the inactive list of voters, unless there is address information available to the registrar from the U.S. Postal Service or its licensee which indicates the registrant has moved to another address within the parish. Provides that a registrant on the inactive list of voters who fails to respond to the address confirmation card remains on the inactive list of voters until his address is confirmed in accordance with the procedures set forth in existing law (R.S. 18:196) or not later than a period of two regularly scheduled federal general elections, at which time the registrar must cancel the registrant's registration.

Existing law (R.S. 18:196) provides procedures for voting by a registrant who is on the inactive list of voters. Requires the registrant to affirm that he resides at the address on file, at a new address in the precinct or parish, or at a new address outside of the parish, in which case he will only be allowed to vote if he affirms that he moved within the last three months.

Existing law provides that if a registrant whose name appears on the inactive list of voters has appeared at the polls and voted and affirmed that he resides at the address on file or at a new address in the precinct or in the parish, the registrar shall transfer the registrant's name to the official list of voters and make any necessary corrections in the registrant's registration records.

Prior law provided that if the registrant appeared at the polls and confirmed that he had moved outside of the parish, the registrar was required to cancel the registration of such registrant.

New law provides instead that if the registrant appears and confirms that he has permanently moved to a different parish, the registrar shall transfer the registrant's registration to the

registrar of the new parish of residence. Provides that if the registrant confirms that he has permanently moved outside the state, the registrar shall cancel the registrant's registration.

Existing law provides that if a registrant whose name appears on the inactive list of voters has voted absentee by mail or during early voting, the registrar shall transfer the registrant's name to the official list of voters and make any necessary corrections in the registrant's registration records if the information on the address confirmation card, as required by existing law (R.S. 18:1309), or the residence address provided in an application to vote by mail so indicates.

Prior law provided that if the registrant confirmed that he had moved outside of the parish, the registrar was required to cancel the registration of such registrant.

New law provides instead that if the registrant confirms that he has permanently moved to a different parish, the registrar shall transfer the registrant's registration to the registrar of the new parish of residence. Provides that if the registrant confirms that he has permanently moved outside the state, the registrar shall cancel the registrant's registration.

Prior law (R.S. 18:176(D)) required the registrar to challenge the registration of voters based on a report involving changes of name; production of the report is no longer required.

New law repeals prior law requiring challenge based on the report.

Existing law (R.S. 18:402) provides dates for primary and general elections. Provides that no election shall be held on certain specified days. Provides that if the date of any election falls on any such specified day, the election shall be held on the same weekday of the preceding week. Provides that if the date for the general election is advanced, the primary election shall be advanced the same number of weeks as the general election.

New law additionally provides that if the date for the primary election is advanced, the general election shall be advanced the same number of weeks as the primary election.

Existing law (R.S. 18:424) provides the powers and duties for commissioners-in-charge. Provides that the commissioner-in-charge shall administer the oath to the commissioners and preside over the election. Requires the commissioner-in-charge to deliver to the clerk of court the keys to the voting machines, if applicable, the original of the machine certificates, and the original of the signed list of commissioners.

Prior law additionally required the commissioner-in-charge to deliver to the clerk one of the original tabulation blank and compiled statement forms.

New law repeals prior law. Instead requires the commissioner-in-charge to deliver to the clerk results cartridges and one of the official election results reports.

Prior law provided that the commissioner-in-charge presided over the counting and tabulation of votes.

New law repeals prior law. Provides instead that the commissioner-in-charge shall preside over the printing of the results from the voting machines and the closing of the polling place.

Existing law (R.S. 18:425) provides for the qualifications of commissioners, which include being a qualified voter who is able to perform the essential duties of a commissioner, not being a candidate or the immediate family member of a candidate in the election, and subject to certain exceptions, having completed certain training.

New law additionally provides that if a proposition or question is on the ballot in a precinct, no member of the governing authority that called the election on the proposition or question and no member of the governing authority of a political subdivision that will receive revenue from a tax or fee that is the subject of the proposition or question shall be selected as a commissioner in that precinct.

Existing law provides the powers and duties of commissioners. Provides that commissioners shall conduct primary and general elections at each polling place, shall enforce the election laws, and shall maintain order at the polling place during the election.

Prior law additionally provided that commissioners were responsible for maintaining order at the polling place during the counting and tabulation of votes.

New law repeals prior law. Provides instead that the commissioners shall maintain order at the polling place during the printing of results from the voting machines.

Existing law (R.S. 18:427 and 435) provides for poll watchers. Provides for qualifications, powers, duties, appointment, and commission of watchers. Provides that each candidate is entitled to have one watcher at every precinct where the office he seeks is voted on. Provides that a watcher shall be admitted within all parts of the polling place during the election day and shall call any infraction of the law to the attention of the commissioners.

Prior law (R.S. 18:427) provided that a watcher was to be admitted within all parts of the polling place during the counting and tabulation of votes but that a watcher could not take part in the counting and tabulation of votes.

New law repeals prior law. Provides instead that a watcher shall be admitted within all parts of the polling place during the printing of results from the voting machines but that the watcher shall not take part in the printing of results from the voting machines.

Existing law (R.S. 18:431) requires the clerk of court to conduct, at least annually, a general course of instruction for commissioners, which shall be open to the public. Requires the clerk to furnish to the persons who attend the course of instruction a copy of the informational pamphlet provided by the secretary of state and instruct them in the use of voting machines and the duties of commissioners in conducting primary and general elections. Requires the clerk to issue a certificate to each person who attends the course of instruction and achieves a satisfactory score on the test issued by the secretary of state for that course.

Prior law required the clerk of court to schedule the course of instruction on some date following the last date for qualifying for office, but at least five days prior to the date for selection of commissioners. Required the parish bd. of election supervisors to furnish to each commissioner-in-charge a list of the names, addresses, and party affiliations of all persons who were registered to vote in the ward who had received certificates of instruction during the term of office of the clerk who issued the certificates of instruction, and who had not been selected as commissioners-in-charge, commissioners, or alternate commissioners for the election.

New law repeals prior law.

Existing law requires the clerk of court to conduct a course of instruction for commissioners-in-charge, commissioners, and alternate commissioners. Provides that the course shall be held after the selection of these officials but not less than four days prior to each election and that the course shall primarily cover the procedures to be used in the election for which the officials were selected.

Prior law required the clerk of court to issue a certificate of instruction to each person who attended and satisfactorily completed the course of instruction.

New law provides instead that the clerk shall either issue a certificate of instruction to each person who attends and completes the course of instruction or keep a list of such persons in the state voter registration computer system.

Existing law (R.S. 18:135) provides (subject to specific exceptions for online registration and certain emergencies) that registrars shall close the registration records 30 days prior to an election or if that day is a legal holiday, on the first day after such holiday which is not a Sat., Sun., or other legal holiday. Existing law (R.S. 18:434) provides for the time, place, and method for selecting commissioners and alternate commissioners. Requires the parish bd. of election supervisors to meet at 10:00 a.m. on the 29th day before a primary election to select the commissioners and alternate commissioners for each precinct.

New law provides that if the deadline for the close of the registration records is moved due to a legal holiday, the meeting shall be moved to the day after the close of the registration records.

Existing law (R.S. 18:469) provides that qualifying in a primary election is reopened when a person who qualified and had opposition dies after the close of qualifying and before the time for the closing of the polls on the day of the primary election. Provides that the name of the deceased candidate shall not be printed on the primary election ballot, but if the primary election ballot has already been printed with the deceased candidate's name on it, any votes received by the deceased candidate shall be void and shall not be counted for any purpose whatsoever.

Existing law provides that if the qualifying period for candidates reopens within 30 days before a primary election and an additional candidate qualifies, all the votes cast in the primary election for that public office are void.

Existing law provides that if all the votes cast in a primary election 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.

Prior law provided that the general election for the office was held on the fourth Sat. after the primary election, unless the primary election was held on the date scheduled for a congressional general election. In that case, the general election for the office was held on the 5th Sat. after the primary election.

New law provides that the general election shall be held on the fifth Sat. after the primary election in all cases, not only when the primary is held on a congressional general election date.

Existing law (R.S. 18:564) provides relative to assistance in voting. Requires a person who needs assistance in voting to provide to the registrar or to the commissioners on election day certain information as proof of disability. Specifies the types of information required. Restricts persons who can provide assistance to a voter. Requires the commissioners to write the voter's name in the precinct register and write the name of the person assisting the voter behind the tab for "Assistance to Voters". Requires the person assisting the voter to sign his name behind the tab for "Assistance to Voters".

New law additionally provides that if the voter is not marked for assistance in voting in the precinct register the voter or the person assisting the voter shall check the box behind the tab for Assistance to Voters indicating that the voter has a physical disability or is unable to read.

Existing law (R.S. 18:566) provides that in an election for federal office, when an applicant's name does not appear on the precinct register and the registrar of voters has not authorized the applicant to vote by affidavit, or the commissioners assert that the applicant is not eligible to vote, and the applicant declares himself to be a registered voter and eligible to vote in the election for federal office, the applicant may cast a provisional ballot for candidates for federal office. Existing law (R.S. 18:566.2) provides that each parish bd. of election supervisors is responsible for counting provisional ballots for federal office. Provides that provisional ballots must be counted prior to the compilation of returns pursuant to existing law (R.S. 18:574).

Prior law (R.S. 18:566.2) additionally provided that provisional ballots were counted on the third day following the election, except that for a presidential or regularly scheduled congressional general election, the provisional ballots could be counted on the third or fourth day, or both, following the election.

New law repeals prior law.

Existing law provides procedures for counting provisional ballots. Requires the parish bd. of election supervisors to announce the name of each provisional voter and to compare the name on the ballot envelope to the names on the list of provisional voters. Provides procedures to be followed after the board determines whether or not a provisional ballot will be counted. Provides for the retention of certain documents.

New law additionally requires the board to confirm each of the following with the registrar:

- (1) The provisional voter is a registered voter in the parish.

- (2) The provisional voter voted on the federal office or offices for which the provisional voter was eligible to vote.
- (3) The provisional voter did not vote early, absentee by mail, or at his precinct on election day.

Existing law (R.S. 18:571) provides procedures for commissioners after the termination of voting, including securing the voting machines, certifying the official election results reports, completing voting machine certificates, certifying the duplicate poll lists, completing an affidavit containing certain commissioner information, gathering voting documents, locking the voting machines, and securing the keys to the voting machines.

Prior law additionally required the commissioners to announce the results of the election in the order the offices, candidates, and propositions are listed on the ballot, announce that the results of the election will be posted at the polling place for public review, and post the results of the election at a conspicuous place at the polling place for public viewing.

New law repeals prior law and instead requires the commissioners to post the voting machine printouts at a conspicuous place at the polling place for public viewing.

Existing law (R.S. 18:572) provides for transmission of election returns. Requires the commissioner-in-charge to send to the secretary of state one of the duplicate poll lists and one copy of the machine certificates. Requires the commissioner-in-charge to send to the clerk of court the keys to the voting machines, the original of the machine certificates, the original of the signed list of commissioners, one copy of the final result tally sheets, and all election result cartridges.

Prior law required the commissioner-in-charge to send the secretary of state a copy of the final result tally sheets.

New law repeals prior law and provides instead that the commissioner-in-charge send to the secretary of state a copy of the printouts from the voting machines.

Prior law required the commissioner-in-charge to send the required documents and other items to the secretary of state and clerk of court upon completion of the counting and tabulating of votes.

New law provides instead that the documents and other items are sent after the results are printed from the voting machines.

Existing law (R.S. 18:574) provides for the compilation and promulgation of election returns. Provides that the parish bd. of election supervisors or its representatives shall meet at the time and place designated by the clerk of court for the voting machines to be opened and to observe the verification of the votes by the clerk of court. Following verification and counting of any provisional ballots, requires the board to publicly prepare two compiled statements of the election returns showing the votes for each candidate and for and against each proposition. Requires the compilation of returns to be completed and a copy filed with the clerk of court by 4 p.m. on the fourth day after the election. Requires the board to mail a copy of the compiled statement to the secretary of state and requires the election returns to be transmitted from the board to the secretary of state by noon on the fifth day after the election. Requires the secretary of state to compile the results of the election and announce the results no later noon on the 6th day after the election.

Existing law provides that the computation of all time intervals for deadlines includes Saturdays, Sundays, and other legal holidays. Provides, however, if the final day in a time interval falls on a Sat., Sun., or other legal holiday, then the next day which is not a Sat., Sun., or legal holiday shall be deemed to be the final day of the time interval. Provides that if one or more of the required duties is delayed because of a Sat., Sun., or other legal holiday, the duties which follow will be delayed a like amount of time.

Existing law requires the secretary of state to promulgate the returns by publication in the official journal of the state on or before the 12th day after the election if no action has been timely filed contesting the election. Provides that if the 12th day after the election falls on

a Sat., Sun., or other legal holiday, and the secretary of state does not promulgate the returns prior to the 12th day after the primary or general election, he shall promulgate the returns on the next day which is not a Sat., Sun., or other legal holiday.

New law additionally provides that if one or more of the duties provided pursuant to existing law is delayed because of a Sat., Sun., or other legal holiday, the duty to promulgate the returns will be delayed a like amount of time.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1300.1 et seq.) provides for recall elections. Provides that if a certain percentage of qualified electors in a voting area sign a petition within a certain amount of time, the governor must issue a proclamation ordering an election to be held for the purpose of voting on the question of the recall of the officer. Provides that the proclamation shall order the election to be held on the next available date specified in existing law (R.S. 18:402(F)). Provides that if the election is to be held on a primary election date, the proclamation shall be issued on or before the last day for candidates to qualify in the election. Provides that if the election is not to be held on a primary election date, the governor's proclamation must be issued a certain number of days prior to the election.

Prior law required the governor's proclamation to be issued on or before the 46th day prior to the election if the election was not held on a primary election date.

New law provides that the proclamation must be issued on or before the 54th day prior to the election.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1303) provides that certain specified persons may vote absentee by mail, including a member of the U.S. Service, a person residing outside of the U.S., certain voters with disabilities, and a person who is at least 65 years old. Existing law (R.S. 18:1307) provides procedures and requirements. Requires a person to make application to the registrar by letter, over his signature or mark, setting forth certain required information.

Existing law provides that if the applicant is a member of the U.S. Service or resides outside the U.S., an application made in a certain form shall remain valid for a certain period of time.

Prior law provided that the application remained valid from the date the application was received in the office of the registrar of voters through two subsequent regularly scheduled federal general elections.

New law provides instead that the application remains valid for a period of at least one year, extending from the date the application is received in the office of the registrar through at least one regularly scheduled federal general election.

Existing law provides for the continuing validity of an application to vote absentee by mail by an applicant who has a disability or who is at least 65 years old if the application meets the requirements of existing law. Provides, however, that the application will no longer be valid if an absentee by mail ballot sent to the applicant is returned to the registrar as undeliverable.

Prior law provided that a valid application by an applicant who had a disability or who was at least 65 years old remained valid indefinitely.

New law provides that the application remains valid indefinitely only upon request of the voter.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1310) provides procedures for casting a vote using an absentee by mail ballot. Provides procedures for using a replacement ballot to vote absentee by mail. Provides that if a voter determines that his ballot is spoiled because he wants to change or correct his vote on the ballot before it is cast and counted but is unable to do so, he may obtain a replacement ballot from the registrar of voters in his parish. Provides that upon receiving the replacement ballot, the voter shall mark the ballot and return it to the registrar as provided in existing law. Provides that the voter shall destroy the spoiled ballot.

Prior law provided that if the voter sent both the spoiled ballot and the replacement ballot to the registrar, each of the ballots was void.

New law provides instead that if the voter sends both ballots to the registrar and the board can determine which is the spoiled ballot and which is the replacement ballot, the board shall count the replacement ballot. Provides that if the board cannot make this determination, each of such ballots shall be void.

Prior law (R.S. 18:1313) provided that if two or more ballots for the same election were included in the same envelope, the board was required to reject all such ballots.

New law repeals prior law.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1313) provides for the tabulation and counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots. Provides that the parish bd. of election supervisors is responsible for the counting and tabulation of all absentee by mail and early voting ballots in the parish and provides procedures therefor. Provides that if a ballot is physically damaged or cannot properly be counted by the counting equipment and the vote cast by the voter is clearly discernible from a physical inspection of the defective ballot, a true duplicate may be made of the defective ballot in the presence of witnesses and substituted for the ballot. Requires the duplicate ballot to be clearly labeled "duplicate", bear a ballot number which shall be recorded on the defective ballot, and be counted in lieu of the defective ballot.

New law additionally provides that if a ballot is physically damaged or cannot properly be counted by the counting equipment and the vote cast by the voter is clearly discernible from a physical inspection of the defective ballot, the ballot may be counted by hand.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1354) provides that the clerk of court is ex officio parish custodian of voting machines in each parish. Provides for the duties of the parish custodian, including providing for the instruction of election commissioners and issuance of certificates of instruction, notifying the candidates of the date and time when they may examine voting machines before the election and when the machines will be opened after the election, supervising and having custody of the voting machines, certifying that the counters on the machines are set to zero prior to the election, and receiving the precinct register and voter lists.

New law additionally requires the parish custodian to transmit the election results to the secretary of state in the manner directed by the secretary of state.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1363) provides for the determination of the number of voting machines that must be allocated to each precinct for an election. Provides for a certain minimum number of voting machines based on the number of voters registered to vote at the precinct.

Existing law authorizes the parish bd. of election supervisors to reduce the number of voting machines allocated to precincts in an election at which a proposition or question is to be presented to voters and in a presidential preference primary election. Requires the parish board to notify the parish custodian of voting machines and the secretary of state of the number of machines to be prepared and delivered.

Prior law required the notifications to be made at least three weeks prior to an election at which a proposition or question was to be presented to voters and not less than 21 days prior to a presidential preference primary election.

New law provides that the notification must be made at least four weeks prior to an election at which a proposition or question was to be presented to voters instead of three weeks and not less than 29 days prior to a presidential preference primary instead of 21 days.

Existing law authorizes the parish board to submit a written request to the secretary of state to reduce the number of voting machines to be allocated and used in an election other than an election at which a proposition or question is to be presented to voters or a presidential preference primary election. Provides that the request must include certain information. Provides that if the secretary of state determines that the reduction in the number of voting machines is feasible, he may reduce the number of voting machines.

Prior law required the written request to be submitted on or before the 23rd day prior to the election.

New law provides instead that the written request must be submitted on or before the 29th day prior to a primary election and at least four weeks prior to a general election.

Existing law authorizes the parish board to submit a written request to the secretary of state for additional voting machines for overcrowded precincts. Provides that the request must include certain information. Provides that if the secretary of state determines that there is a need for additional voting machines and that the provision of additional voting machines is feasible, he may allocate additional voting machines.

Prior law required the written request to be submitted on or before the 23rd day prior to the election.

New law provides instead that the written request must be submitted on or before the 29th day prior to the election.

Existing law (R.S. 18:425.1 and 1286.1) authorizes the parish bd. of election supervisors to consolidate polling places if more than one polling place is within the same location and to reduce the number of voting machines to be used at the consolidated polling place below the minimum number provided in existing law (R.S. 18:1363). Requires the parish board to notify the parish custodian of voting machines and the secretary of state of the number of machines to be prepared and delivered for the consolidated polling place.

New law additionally requires the notifications to be made on or before the 29th day prior to a primary election or at least four weeks prior to a general election.

Prior law (R.S. 18:1373) required the parish custodian to mail a notice to each candidate in the election, stating the time and place at which the preparation and testing of the machines would be conducted, the time and place when the machines would be sealed, and stating that the candidate or his representative could be present to observe the preparation, testing, and sealing of the machines by the parish custodian.

New law provides instead that the qualifying official shall at the time of qualifying provide each candidate with a chronological table of procedures for the election that instructs the candidate to contact the parish custodian for information relative to the preparation, testing, and sealing of the machines and states that the candidate or his representative may be present to observe the preparation, testing, and sealing of the machines by the parish custodian.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1402) provides for the proper parties in an action objecting to candidacy or an action contesting an election. Provides that the secretary of state, in his official capacity, shall be made a party defendant to an action contesting an election for public office, contesting an election for the recall of a public officer, objecting to the calling of a special election, or contesting the certification of a recall petition.

New law additionally requires the secretary of state to be made a party to an action contesting an election submitting a proposition to the voters. Provides that the secretary of state shall have standing to intervene in an action objecting to candidacy in which the secretary of state was not the qualifying official.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 14, 2017), except that provisions relative to voter registration at driver's license facilities and to replacement ballots become effective August 1, 2017, and provisions relative to the voter registration application form become effective on January 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 18:3(A)(3), 18(A)(intro. para.) and (8)(b), 25(B), 59.4(E)(2)(c), 104, 107(B), 114(F)(2), 196(C)(1) and (2), 402(G)(2), 424(C)(1), 425(C)(1), 425.1(A), 427(B), 431(A)(4) and (B)(2), 434(A)(1), 469(D)(2), 564(B)(5)(b), 566.2(C) and (F)(3)–(9), 571(A)(5), 572(A)(1)(intro. para.) and (a)(i), 574(F), 1286.1(A), 1300.7(A), 1307(C) and (G), 1310(D)(2), 1313(F)(9) and (G)(11), 1363(B), (D), (G), and (H), 1373(A)(1), and 1402(C); Adds R.S. 18:107(F), 425(B)(3)(c), 566.2(F)(10), and 1354(B)(8); Repeals R.S. 18:176(D), 200, 431(A)(5), and 1313(F)(11))