Under present law, upon receipt of a certified copy of a death certificate, Registrars of Voters removes the decedent’s name from the voter registration rolls. Proposed law requires removal to be within three (3) business days of receipt of such death certificate. Under present law, the LA Dept. of Health (LDH) sends a monthly report to the Secretary of State (SOS) of persons in each parish who died in the preceding month; and the SOS cancels the registration when the information on the decedent corresponds exactly to voter registration information. Proposed law requires the SOS to cancel registration within three (3) business days if the information provided by LDH corresponds with at least three pieces of identifying information as provided on the decedent’s voter registration information. Under present law, Registrars of Voters are authorized to cancel registrations based on obituaries. Proposed law requires the Registrars of Voters to do so. Under present law, requires the SOS to send information from the LDH to the Registrars of Voters on decedents whose registrations were not canceled. Proposed law requires Registrars of Voters to search for obituaries for such persons.

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure. Once notice is received, the proposed law requires the Registrars of Voters (ROVs) and the Secretary of State (SOS) to remove a deceased person’s name from the voter registration rolls within three (3) business days. Furthermore, under the proposed law, if using the information provided by the LA Department of Health (LDH), the SOS must cancel voter registration within 3 business days when at least three pieces of identifying information provided match the decedent’s voter information. If the SOS does not cancel a decedent’s name from the voter registration rolls, the ROVs are required to search the obituaries and cancel registrations based on obituaries under this measure.

The SOS reports that implementing the proposed law requires one-time funding of $32,000 SGF (320 hours x $100) due to IT programming changes for the Voter Registration system to match data from LDH. The SOS can accomplish these tasks utilizing existing resources and budget authority. To the extent that numerous pieces of legislation are enacted requiring programming efforts, the agency may require additional resources.

Note: The proposed law requires only three matches of identifying information to cancel the registration. SOS has reported this requirement might result in duplicative and false-positive matches, which may result in the department expending additional resources to correct any errors.

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.