

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 384

BY SENATOR FIELDS

VOTERS/VOTING. Provides relative to voter identification requirements. (7/1/25)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1309(D)(1)(d) and 1317 and to enact R.S. 18:1309(D)(1)(e)
3 and (f), relative to certain voter data; to provide for reporting requirements; to
4 provide for dissemination of information by the secretary of state; to provide for an
5 effective date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 18:1309(D)(1)(d) and 1317 are hereby amended and reenacted and
8 R.S. 18:1309(D)(1)(e) and (f) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §1309. Early voting; verification

10		*	*	*
11	D.(1)(a)	*	*	*
12		*	*	*

13 **(d) If the voter is deemed ineligible to vote due to a deficiency in the**
14 **affidavit provided for in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, the registrar or**
15 **his deputy shall issue a written explanation to the applicant and the secretary**
16 **of state.**

17 **(e) The secretary of state shall maintain records of all affidavits rejected**

1 pursuant to the provisions of this Subsection and shall include information
 2 detailing the total number of affidavits rejected per parish and the reasons for
 3 their rejection in the post-election statistical data published to the website of the
 4 secretary of state.

5 ~~(d)~~(f) A voter who votes without the picture identification required by
 6 Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph is subject to challenge as provided in R.S.
 7 18:1315.

8 * * *

9 §1317. Curing absentee by mail ballot deficiencies; rejection of deficient ballots

10 The secretary of state shall promulgate and adopt rules as necessary to
 11 effectuate uniform and standardized processes for the review and curing or rejection
 12 of deficient absentee by mail ballots by the parish board of election supervisors,
 13 shall maintain records of all ballots rejected pursuant to the provisions of R.S.
 14 18:1309, and shall include information detailing the total number of ballots
 15 rejected per parish and the reasons for their rejection in the post-election
 16 statistical data published to the website of the secretary of state.

17 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2025; if vetoed by the governor
 18 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day
 19 following such approval by the legislature or July 1, 2025, whichever is later.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Matt DeVille.

	DIGEST	
SB 384 Engrossed	2024 Regular Session	Fields

Present law provides that before any voter is allowed to vote during early voting the registrar or his deputy must establish the voter's identity by requiring him to submit either a Louisiana driver's license, special identification card, generally recognized picture information card that contains the name and signature of the voter, or a United States military identification card that contains the voter's name and picture.

Present law further provides that if the voter does not have one of the forms of identification otherwise required by present law to verify his identity that the voter must sign and complete an affidavit that includes his date of birth and mother's maiden name.

Proposed law retains present law as to the required voter information and requires a voter deemed to be ineligible to vote due to a deficiency in the affidavit be provided with a written explanation by the registrar of voters or his deputy.

Proposed law further provides that a copy of the written explanation be provided to the secretary of state and requires the secretary to maintain records of all rejected affidavits and to include information detailing the number of rejected affidavits per parish and the reasons for their rejection in the post-election statistical data published to the secretary's website.

Present law provides that the secretary of state shall promulgate and adopt rules as necessary to effectuate uniform and standardized processes for the review and curing or rejection of deficient absentee by mail ballots by the parish board of election of supervisors.

Proposed law retains present law and further requires the secretary to maintain records of all ballots rejected pursuant to present law and include information detailing the total number of ballots rejected per parish and the reasons for their rejection in the post-election statistical data published to the secretary's website.

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

(Amends R.S. 18:1309(D)(1)(d) and 1317; adds R.S. 18:1309(D)(1)(e) and (f))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Make technical changes.
2. Provide for an effective date.
3. Require a registrar of voters or his deputy to issue a written explanation for the rejection of an early voting affidavit due to a deficiency.
4. Require the secretary of state to maintain records of all rejected early voting affidavits and include a breakdown of the affidavits rejected by parish and reasons for their rejection in the post-election statistical data published on the secretary of state's website.