

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2024 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to Engrossed Senate Bill No. 226 by Senator Cloud

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 2, at the end of line 14, insert the following: "**However, an absentee by mail ballot shall not be deemed challenged solely because the voter indicates on the absentee by mail certificate that he does not know his mother's maiden name.**"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, delete lines 19 through 29 and on page 3, delete lines 1 through 18 and insert the following:

"(2) If a challenge in accordance with the provisions of Subsection A of this Section is sustained, the vote shall not be counted; the ballot or early voting confirmation sheet shall be placed in the special, secure absentee by mail and early voting ballot container; and the board shall notify the voter in writing of the challenge and the cause therefor. This notification shall be on a form provided by the secretary of state and shall be signed by at least a majority of the members of the board. The notice of the challenge and the cause therefor shall be given within four business days by mail, addressed to the voter at his place of residence. The board shall retain a copy of the notification. However, if the challenge is based upon a change of residence within the parish or is based upon a change of residence outside of the parish that has occurred within the last three months, the ballot shall be counted, provided that the voter confirmed his current address as shown by the affidavit of the absentee by mail ballot certificate or early voting confirmation sheet or, if the voter is on the inactive list of voters, as shown by the information provided on an address confirmation notice.

(3)(a) If a challenge in accordance with the provisions of Subsection B of this Section is sustained, the vote shall not be counted and the board shall write "rejected" and the cause therefor across the ballot envelope or early voting confirmation sheet, and shall place the ballots and early voting confirmation sheets so rejected in the special, secure absentee by mail and early voting ballot container. The board shall notify the voter in writing of the challenge and the cause therefor. The notification shall be on a form provided by the secretary of state and shall be signed by at least a majority of the members of the board. The notice of the challenge and the cause therefor shall be given within four business days by mail addressed to the voter at his place of residence. The board shall retain a copy of the notification.

(b) If a ballot is rejected pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 18:1316, the vote shall not be counted and the board shall write "rejected" and the cause therefor on a separate slip of paper and attach it to the ballot, and shall place the ballots so rejected in the special, secure absentee by mail and early voting ballot container."