

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 323

2025 Regular Session

Beaulieu

ELECTIONS/DATES: Provides for election dates for municipal officers and school board members

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Changes the deadline for a school board to file a plan with the secretary of state from July 28, 2026, to July 1, 2026.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law provides that school board elections occur at the congressional election. Provides that school board members serve four year concurrent terms beginning the first day of Jan. following their election.

Present law further provides that municipal elections shall be held every four years on the date for spring municipal and ward elections in accordance with the dates provided present law. Provides that municipal officers shall take office on the first day of July following their election and shall hold office for four years.

Proposed law retains present law, except to provide that any school board or municipality may, by resolution, adopt a plan for holding its elections at the same time as the fall gubernatorial election in accordance with present law beginning with the 2031 fall gubernatorial election. Provides that no such plan shall be revocable by the adopting school board or municipality.

Proposed law provides that school board members of a school board that complies with proposed law who are elected at school board elections held at the same time as the 2026 congressional election shall serve until their successors elected under the plan take office on Jan. 1, 2032. Further provides that municipal officers of a municipality that complies with proposed law who are elected at municipal elections held at the same time as the 2027 spring municipal election, as provided by present law (R.S. 18:402), shall serve until their successors elected under the plan take office on July 1, 2032.

Proposed law requires that any plan adopted by a school board pursuant to proposed law be filed with the secretary of state no later than July 1, 2026. Further requires that any plan adopted by a municipality pursuant to proposed law be filed with the secretary of state no later than Jan. 12, 2027.

Present law provides that if no municipal election is held on the day prescribed by law or if a vacancy in any municipal office elective by the people occurs or if an officer elected fails to qualify, such vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of present constitution and present law.

Proposed law retains present law and provides the same for school board elections provided for in proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 17:52(A) and R.S. 33:383(A)(1) and (2)(a) and (c); Adds R.S. 33:383(A)(3))