

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1057

BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS

VOTERS/VOTING: Provides for an application to vote absentee by mail made by a member of the United States Service

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1307(C), relative to absentee by mail voting; to provide
3 relative to applying to vote absentee by mail; to provide relative to application by a
4 member of the United States Service stationed or deployed outside of the United
5 States; to provide that an application remains valid until a certain time under certain
6 circumstances; to require a new application under certain circumstances; and to
7 provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 18:1307(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §1307. Application by mail

11 * * *

12 C.(1) If the applicant is a member of the United States Service or resides
13 outside the United States, he may use the federal postcard application or an
14 application electronically transmitted by the registrar or secretary of state, and the
15 application shall be received by the registrar no later than 4:30 p.m. on the day
16 before the election. Such application shall be valid for a period extending at least
17 one year from the date the application is received in the office of the registrar of
18 voters; such period shall include at least one regularly scheduled federal general

1 election. If the registrar rejects the application of an applicant who is a member of
2 the United States Service or resides outside the United States, the registrar shall
3 provide the applicant with written reasons for the rejection.

4 (2)(a) If the applicant is a member of the United States Service and is
5 stationed or deployed outside of the United States, his application, if such application
6 meets the requirements of this Section, shall be valid until he is no longer stationed
7 or deployed outside of the United States.

8 (b) If an absentee by mail ballot sent to a member of the United States
9 Service who is stationed or deployed outside of the United States is returned to the
10 registrar as undeliverable, the applicant's application shall no longer be valid, and the
11 registrar shall send notice by forwardable mail to the applicant that his application
12 is no valid. The applicant shall submit a new application to the registrar that meets
13 the requirements of this Section and provide a current address before the applicant
14 will be eligible to vote absentee by mail again pursuant to this Section.

15 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 1057 Original

2026 Regular Session

Walters

Abstract: Provides that an application to vote absentee by mail made by a member of the U.S. Service who is stationed or deployed outside of the U.S. remains valid until he is no longer stationed or deployed outside of the U.S.

Present law (R.S. 18:1307(C)) provides for the application by mail to vote absentee for a member of the U.S. Service or someone who resides outside of the U.S. Provides the member of the U.S. Service or person residing outside of the U.S. may use the federal postcard application or an application electronically transmitted by the registrar or sec. of state, and the application shall be received by the registrar no later than 4:30 p.m. on the day before the election. Provides that such application shall be valid for a period extending at least one year from the date the application is received in the office of the registrar of voters; such period shall include at least one regularly scheduled federal general election. Further provides that if the registrar rejects the application of an applicant who is a member of the U.S. Service or resides outside of the U.S., the registrar shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the rejection.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that if the applicant is a member of the U.S. Service and is stationed or deployed outside of the U.S. his application, if such application meets the requirements of present law, shall be valid until the applicant is no longer stationed or deployed outside of the U.S. Further provides that if an absentee by mail ballot sent to a member of the U.S. Service who is stationed or deployed outside of the U.S. and is returned to the registrar as undeliverable, the applicant's application shall no longer be valid, and the registrar shall send notice by forwardable mail to the applicant that his application is no longer valid. Provides that the applicant shall submit a new application to the registrar that meets the requirements of present law and provide a current address before the applicant will be eligible to vote absentee by mail again pursuant to present law.

(Amends R.S. 18:1307(C))