

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 5 (SB 319)

2026 Regular Session

Pressly

Prior law required each person desiring to vote in a primary or general election to give their name and address to a commissioner who then announces the applicant's name and address to the persons at the polling place. Required the applicant to identify himself, in the presence and view of the bystanders, and present to the commissioners one of the following items:

- (1) A Louisiana driver's license.
- (2) A Louisiana special identification card issued pursuant to R.S. 40:1321, or other generally recognized picture identification card that contains the name and signature of the applicant.

Prior law provided that if one does not have one of the forms of identification, then requires the applicant to complete and sign an affidavit, supplied by the secretary of state, to that effect before the commissioners, which affidavit includes the applicant's date of birth and mother's maiden name. Provided that if the applicant is unable to read or write or is otherwise unable to complete the affidavit due to disability, they may receive assistance in completing the affidavit and the commissioner shall make a notation on the affidavit. Authorizes the applicant to receive the assistance of any person of his choice, including a commissioner, except a candidate, commissioner-in-charge, the applicant's employer or employer's agent, or the applicant's union agent and the affidavit shall be placed in the envelope marked "Registrar of Voters" and attach the envelope to the precinct register. Provides that if an applicant is allowed to vote without the picture identification then they are subject to challenge as provided in the Louisiana Election Code.

New law requires that an applicant desiring to vote in a primary or general election is to identify himself by one of the following primary forms of identification:

- (1) A La. driver's license.
- (2) La. special identification card issued pursuant to R.S. 40:1321.
- (3) A U.S. passport book.
- (4) A U.S. Certificate of Citizenship that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.
- (5) A U.S. Certificate of Naturalization that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.
- (6) A tribal identification card issued by a tribe recognized by the state of Louisiana or the federal government that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.
- (7) A U.S. military identification card that contains the applicant's name and picture.

New law provides that if the applicant does not have one of primary forms of identification enumerated in new law he may present two forms of identification consisting of either two primary documents or one primary and one secondary document listed as follows:

- (1) Primary documents:
 - (a) An original or certified domestic birth certificate.
 - (b) Birth registration card or certificate issued by the state bureau of vital statistics.
 - (c) Certificate of Birth Abroad issued by the U.S. Department of State.
 - (d) Certificate of Naturalization.
 - (e) Certificate of Citizenship.

- (f) Social Security card.
 - (g) United States passport card.
 - (h) Tribal identification card issued by a tribe recognized by the state of Louisiana or the federal government that does not contain the applicant's picture or signature.
 - (i) A U.S. veteran health identification card.
- (2) Secondary documents:
- (a) Voter registration notice.
 - (b) Current utility bill, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.
 - (c) Bank statement, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.
 - (d) Government check or document, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.
 - (e) Paycheck or pay stub, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.

New law provides if an applicant does not have one of the forms of identification listed, he shall go to any office of the registrar of voters in the parish in which the applicant is registered to cast a conditional paper ballot no later than 8:00 p.m. on election day. Provides that no later than 4:30 pm on the second day following the election, requires that the applicant appear in person to present to the registrar of voters identification as provided in new law.

New law requires that all conditional paper ballots be presented to the parish board of election supervisors for counting or rejection prior to the compilation of returns at the office of the registrar of voters or at a public facility within the parish designated by the parish board of election supervisors. Provides that if an applicant has presented identification, then requires the board to count the conditional paper ballot; requires that the board reject the conditional paper ballot if the applicant fails to present the appropriate identification

Existing law authorizes early voting by a voter whose identify is established by one of the following primary forms of identification:

- (1) A Louisiana driver's license.
- (2) A Louisiana special identification card issued pursuant to R.S. 40:1321, or other generally recognized picture identification card that contains the name and signature of the voter.
- (3) A United States military identification card that contains the voter's name and picture.

New law allows early voting by voters whose identity is established by any one of the following primary form of identification:

- (1) A La. driver's license.
- (2) A La. special identification card issued pursuant to R.S. 40:1321.
- (3) A U.S. military identification card that contains the voter's name and picture.
- (4) A U.S. passport book.
- (5) A U.S. Certificate of Citizenship that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.

- (6) A U.S. Certificate of Naturalization that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.
- (7) A tribal identification card issued by a tribe recognized by the state of Louisiana or the federal government that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.

New law provides the same forms of primary and secondary identification as provided for voters registering to vote who does not have one of the primary forms of identification;

New law provides that if the applicant does not have one of forms of identification enumerated in new law he may present two forms of identification consisting of either two primary documents or one primary and one secondary document listed in new law:

New law provides for same completion and counting of conditional paper ballots used in voting to be used in early voting.

Effective July 1, 2027.

(Amends R.S. 18:431(A)(1)(b)(iii) and (B)(1), 433(A)(3), 562(A), 571(A)(8), 573(E), and 1309(D))