

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 690

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

POLITICAL PARTIES: Provides relative to the election of State Central Committee members

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:443(B)(1), 443.1(B), 443.2(2)(a)(ii), (3), and (7), and  
3 444(B)(1) and to enact R.S. 18:443(G), relative to the election of a political party's  
4 state central committee members; to provide relative to voting of a state central  
5 committee; to provide relative to plans adopted by a state central committee; and to  
6 provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 18:443(B)(1), 443.1(B), 443.2(2)(a)(ii), (3), and (7), and 444(B)(1)  
9 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:443(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §443. State central committee

11 \* \* \*

12 B.(1) All members of the state central committee of a recognized political  
13 party shall be elected every four years at the same time as the presidential preference  
14 primary election. ~~The term of office shall not extend for a period beyond the time~~  
15 ~~for which the member was elected. Notwithstanding this provision, members elected~~  
16 ~~in 1991 shall serve until their successors are chosen.~~

17 \* \* \*

18 G.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 18:443(B)(1), if an election for  
19 members of the state central committee does not occur at the same time as the  
20 presidential preference primary in 2020, the members of the state central committee







Present law provides that for a political party of which 30% percent or less of the registered voters in the state are affiliated, the membership of the state central committee is composed and apportioned as provided in R.S. 18:443.2.

Proposed law retains present law but removes the required percentage.

Present law provides that for a political party of which 30% percent or less of the registered voters in the state are affiliated, all members of a state central committee are elected at the same time as the presidential preference primary election. Further provides that the term of office will be no longer than the period for which the member was elected.

Proposed law gives a state central committee the option to choose whether to be elected as provided in R.S. 18:443.2 or by R.S. 18:443.1. Changes the term of a member; the member's term will be until the next presidential primary is held or until his successor is qualified and elected in the event that the election for state central committee members cannot be held at the same time as the presidential preference primary election.

Present law prohibits a member of a state central committee from exercising the proxy votes of more than three other members at any meeting. Proposed law removes present law.

Present law provides that when a state central committee does not adopt and file a plan, the membership of such state central committee shall be composed of 144 members, with one member elected from each of the districts from which members of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the legislature are elected. Proposed law removes present law and provides that a plan previously filed by the state central committee remains in effect until rescinded or replaced by the state central committee.

Present law provides that a political party's members of a parish executive committee are elected every four years at the same time as the presidential preference primary election to a term no longer than the period for which the member was elected. Further provides that members elected in 1991 shall serve until their successors are chosen.

Proposed law removes the exception that members elected in 1991 shall serve until their successors are chosen.

Proposed law provides that members shall serve until the next presidential primary is held or until their successors are qualified and elected.

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

(Amends R.S. 18:443(B)(1), 443.1(B), 443.2(2)(a)(ii), (3), and (7), and 444(B)(1); Adds R.S. 18:443(G))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Add provisions of proposed law regarding the date of the election for state central committee members in 2020.
2. Add a provision of proposed law regarding the term of office of the members of a parish executive committee.
3. Add a provision making proposed law effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.