

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

SB 75

2020 Regular Session

Mizell

June 1, 2020

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate and to the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning Senate Bill No. 75 by Senator Mizell, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

- 1. That House Floor Amendment No. 1 proposed by Representative Frieman and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 29, 2020, be rejected.
- 2. That the following amendment to the engrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 2, after line 29, insert the following:

"(d) The address of a political organization as defined in 26 U.S.C. 527.

(e) The address of an organization which has tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) or (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, unless the organization address is the mailing address on file with the registrar of voters or an address at which the person regularly receives mail."

Respectfully submitted,

Senators:

Representatives:

Senator Beth Mizell

Representative Lance Harris

Senator Mike Reese

Representative Stephen Dwight

Senator Barry Milligan

Representative Gregory A. Miller

The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tim Prather.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

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Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

KEYWORD. Provides relative to addresses to where absentee by mail ballots are sent. (gov sig)

Report rejects House amendments which would have:

1. Added to the following to the list where mail ballots will not be sent:
 - (a) The address of a political organization as defined in 26 U.S.C. 527.
 - (b) The address of an organization which has tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) or (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Add the address of a political organization as defined in 26 U.S.C. 527.
2. Add the address of an organization which has tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) or (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, unless the organization address is the mailing address on file with the registrar of voters or an address at which the person regularly receives mail.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law regarding absentee election ballots, provides that an absentee by mail ballot envelop flap shall contain a line for the handwritten signature of one witness and a line for the printed name of the witness. Provides that the voter shall sign the certificate in the presence of one witness and his certificate shall be made under penalty of perjury for providing false or fraudulent information.

Proposed law retains present law and prohibits any person other than an immediate family member of the voter to witness more than one certificate of a voter.

Present law provides that a person qualified to vote absentee by mail as provided by present law may apply to the registrar by letter stating:

- (1) The election or elections for which he requests an absentee ballot.
- (2) The reason for his request to vote absentee by mail and attaching any supporting documentation.
- (3) The address to which the absentee ballot or ballots shall be sent.
- (4) The ward and precinct in which the person is qualified to vote, if known.
- (5) The date of birth of the voter.
- (6) The maiden name of the voter's mother or other identifying information provided in the voter's application for registration.
- (7) The street address in the parish where the voter resides.

- (8) If the person requests that a ballot for a general election be sent in addition to a ballot for the primary, he shall declare in writing to the registrar that he will be eligible to vote absentee by mail in the general election.

Proposed law provides that the absentee by mail ballots will not be sent to the following addresses:

- (1) The address of a political party.
- (2) The residential, business, or campaign address of a candidate, unless the address is for the candidate's ballot or a ballot of an immediate family member of the candidate.
- (3) A business address, unless the business address is the mailing address on file with the registrar of voters or an address at which the person regularly receives mail.
- (4) The address of a political organization as defined in 26 U.S.C. 527.
- (5) The address of an organization which has tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) or (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, unless the organization address is the mailing address on file with the registrar of voters or an address at which the person regularly receives mail.

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

(Amends R.S. 18:1306(E)(2)(a) and 1307(A))