SLS 21RS-268 ENGROSSED

2021 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 63

BY SENATOR ROBERT MILLS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

VOTERS/VOTING. Requires certain absentee ballots to be delivered to an employee of the registrar of voters. (gov sig)

AN ACT

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To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1308(B), relative to hand delivery of absentee ballots; to provide for receipt requirements; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:1308(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1308. Absentee voting by mail

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B. The ballot shall be marked as provided in R.S. 18:1310 and returned to the registrar by the United States Postal Service, a commercial courier, or hand delivery to an employee of the registrar at the registrar's principal office, branch office, early voting location during the period for conducting early voting, or mobile registration unit. If delivered by other than the voter, a commercial courier, or the United States Postal Service, the registrar shall require that the person making such delivery sign a statement, prepared by the secretary of state, certifying that he has the authorization and consent of the voter to hand deliver the marked ballot. For purposes of this Subsection, "commercial courier" shall have the same meaning as provided in R.S. 13:3204(D). No person except the immediate family of the voter,

as defined in this Code, shall hand deliver more than one marked ballot to the registrar. Upon its receipt, the registrar shall post the name and precinct of the voter as required by R.S. 18:1311.

* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument was prepared by Matt DeVille. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by LG Sullivan.

DIGEST

SB 63 Engrossed

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2021 Regular Session

Robert Mills

<u>Present law</u> requires an absentee by mail ballot to be marked as provided in <u>present law</u> and returned to the registrar by the United States Postal Service, a commercial courier, or hand-delivery.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains the delivery methods in <u>present law</u> and requires a hand-delivered absentee by mail ballot to be returned to an employee of the registrar at the registrar's principal office, branch office, early voting location during the period for early voting, or mobile registration unit.

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

(Amends R.S. 18:1308(B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

<u>Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and</u> Governmental Affairs to the original bill

1. Allow hand delivery to occur at an early voting location during the early voting period.