2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 178

BY REPRESENTATIVES VILLIO, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAGLEY, BEAULLIEU, BUTLER, CARRIER, CREWS, DAVIS, ECHOLS, EDMONDS, EDMONSTON, FARNUM, FIRMENT, FONTENOT, FRIEMAN, GADBERRY, GAROFALO, HARRIS, HORTON, ILLG, MCCORMICK, MCMAHEN, MIGUEZ, CHARLES OWEN, PRESSLY, SCHAMERHORN, SCHLEGEL, SEABAUGH, AND THOMAS AND SENATOR MIZELL

VOTERS/VOTING: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to the right to vote

1   A JOINT RESOLUTION

2   Proposing to amend Article I, Section 10 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to right

3   to vote; to provide for persons who have the right to register and vote in this state;

4   to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide

5   for related matters.

6   Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members

7   elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of

8   Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to

9   amend Article I, Section 10 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

10   §10. Right to Vote; Disqualification from Seeking or Holding an Elective Office

11   Section 10.(A) Right to Vote. (1) Every person who is both a citizen of the

12   state and of the United States, upon reaching eighteen years of age, shall have the

13   right to register and vote, except that this right may be suspended while for a person

14   who is interdicted and judicially declared mentally incompetent or who is under an

15   order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony.

16   (2) No person who is not a citizen of the United States shall be allowed to

17   register and vote in this state.

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1   Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted

2   to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on December 10,

3   2022.

4   Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,

5   there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted

6   to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as

7   follows:

8   Do you support an amendment to provide that no person who is not a citizen

9   of the United States shall be allowed to register and vote in this state?

10   (Amends Article I, Section 10)

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)]

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Abstract: Provides relative to the right to vote.

Present constitution provides that every citizen of the state has the right to register and vote upon reaching 18 years of age; provides exceptions.

Proposed constitutional amendment expressly limits this right to vote to U.S. citizens. Prohibits allowing noncitizens to register and vote.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Dec. 10, 2022.

(Amends Const. Art. I, §10(A))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

    1.   Amend ballot language.

    The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Civil Law and
        Procedure to the engrossed bill:

    1.   Make technical changes to the ballot language.

    The House Floor Amendments to the reengrossed bill:

    1.   Remove provision prohibiting local governments from changing voting
            qualifications as provided by present constitution.

2.   Add prohibition on allowing noncitizens to register and vote.

3.   Change the date for submission of the proposal to the voters <u>from</u> Nov. 8 <u>to</u> Dec. 10.

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