SLS 24RS-446

ORIGINAL

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 167

BY SENATOR HODGES

VOTERS/VOTING. Provides relative to the crime of filing or maintaining false public records. (8/1/24)

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 14:133(C)(1) and to enact R.S. 14:133(A)(4), relative to the
3	crime of filing or maintaining false public records; to provide for the prohibition of
4	the filing of or maintaining certain false public records; to provide relative to certain
5	voter registration applications; and to provide for related matters.
6	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
7	Section 1. R.S. 14:133(C)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 14:133(A)(4)
8	is hereby enacted to read as follows:
9	§133. Filing or maintaining false public records
10	A. Filing false public records is the filing or depositing for record in any
11	public office or with any public official, or the maintaining as required by law,
12	regulation, or rule, with knowledge of its falsity, of any of the following:
13	* * *
14	(4) A voter registration application containing a false statement that the
15	applicant is a citizen of the United States.
16	* * *
17	C.(1) Whoever commits the crime of filing false public records shall be

Page 1 of 2 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

1	imprisoned for not more than five years with or without hard labor or shall be fined
2	not more than five thousand dollars, or both. punished as follows:
3	(a) For a first offense, a person shall be imprisoned for not less than
4	thirty days or fined not less than five hundred dollars, or both.
5	(b) For second and subsequent offenses, a person shall be imprisoned for
6	not less than thirty days or fined not less than five hundred dollars, or both, per
7	violation.
8	* * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Matt DeVille.

SB 167 Original

DIGEST 2024 Regular Session

Hodges

<u>Present law</u> defines the crime of filing or maintaining false public records as the filing or depositing for record in any public office or with any public official, or the maintaining as required by law, regulation, or rule, with knowledge of its falsity of any of the following: any forged document, any wrongfully altered document, and any document containing a false statement or false representation of a material fact.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and adds voter registration applications containing a false statement that the applicant is a citizen of the United States to the list of public records to which the crime applies.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that filing false public records shall be punished as follows:

- (1) For a first offense, a person shall be imprisoned for not less than 30 days or fined not less than \$500, or both.
- For second and subsequent offenses, a person shall be imprisoned for not less than 30 days or fined not less than \$500, or both, per violation.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 14:133(C)(1); adds R.S. 14:133(A)(4))