

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2026 Regular Session

Substitute for Original Senate Bill No. 342 by Senator Barrow as proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs.

**This document reflects the content of a substitute bill but is not in a bill form; page numbers in this document DO NOT correspond to page numbers in the substitute bill itself.**

To enact R.S. 18:115(F)(2)(f), relative to absentee voting; to provide for voting by qualified incarcerated persons; to provide for absentee voting following voter registration by mail; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:115(F)(2)(f) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§115. Registration by mail

\* \* \*

F.(1)

\* \* \*

\* \* \*

(2) The provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall not apply in the case of the following:

\* \* \*

**(f) A person who is incarcerated in an institution inside or outside the parish in which the person is qualified to vote and who requests to vote absentee by mail pursuant to R.S. 18:1303(G).**

\* \* \*

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.

The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST

SB Original

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Present law (R.S. 18:1303(G)) authorizes a person who is incarcerated in an institution inside or outside the parish in which he is qualified to vote but who is not under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony to vote absentee by mail upon certification to the

appropriate registrar by the sheriff of the parish where the person is incarcerated that he is not a convicted felon.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 18:115) requires a registered voter who has registered by mail and has not previously voted in the parish to vote in person either at a location where early voting is conducted or at the precinct in which he is registered.

Proposed law retains present law and provides for an exception that an incarcerated voter is not required to vote in person.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 18:115(F)(2)(f))