

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 7 (HB 842)

2026 Regular Session

Beaulieu

Registrars of Voters

Existing law (R.S. 18:53) provides grounds for removal of a registrar of voters. Provides that if the commissioner of elections raises allegations that the parish registrar has engaged in conduct for which a registrar may be removed, the State Board of Election Supervisors shall schedule a hearing on the allegations brought by the commissioner of elections within 30 days of the receipt thereof.

Existing law (R.S. 18:55 and 59) provides that the parish portion of the salary for each registrar of voters, chief deputy registrar, and confidential assistant shall be paid monthly by the parish governing authority.

New law further provides that the parish portion of the salary may also be paid biweekly or semimonthly.

Existing law (R.S. 18:62) provides that no registrar of voters, deputy registrar, or other employee of a registrar who is in the unclassified *state* service shall participate or engage in certain political activity.

New law further extends the prohibition to registrars of voters, deputy registrars, and other employees of a registrar who are in the unclassified civil service of *any* civil service system.

Existing law further provides that all deputy registrars and other employees of a registrar who are in the classified *state* service shall be subject to the constitution and laws, and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto, affecting political activities by persons in the classified state service.

New law further provides that deputy registrars and other employees of a registrar who are in the classified civil service of *any* civil service system shall be subject to the constitution and laws, and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto, affecting political activities by persons in the classified civil service.

Voter Registration

New law (R.S. 18:106.2) provides that if a registered voter, subsequent to his registration, is no longer capable of signing his name or making a mark due to a physical disability, he shall file with the registrar of voters an alternative signature attestation to authorize another person to sign documents required by the Election Code on his behalf. Requires the voter to include a letter signed by a physician stating that the voter is unable to provide his signature or mark due to a physical disability and that the voter is capable of providing consent for another person to sign on his behalf.

New law imposes requirements on the individual assisting the applicant and provides for information that shall be included on the form.

New law provides that the individual authorized to assist the voter shall be an elector of the state and shall not be a candidate, the voter's employer or employer's agent, or the voter's union agent. Provides that the individual authorized to assist the applicant shall also sign and print his own name and residential address on any document for which the individual assists the applicant.

New law further provides that if a registered voter who is no longer capable of signing his name or making a mark due to a physical disability appears in person to vote on election day or during early voting, he shall verbally or otherwise convey his consent for the commissioner or deputy registrar to sign the precinct register, early voting register, and any other forms required by the Election Code and the commissioner or deputy registrar shall sign on behalf of the voter in the presence of at least one witness.

Existing law (R.S. 18:108) provides that if a registrant's application for registration indicates that the applicant previously registered as a voter in any other parish the registrar shall

promptly notify the registrar of the parish in which the applicant has registered previously of the present registration.

Prior law required that if the previous notice of registration was available, then before making a new registration the registrar would require the applicant to surrender his previous notice for cancellation and the other registrar would verify the cancellation of the voter's registration in the other parish.

New law removes the requirement that the applicant surrender his previous notice for cancellation and that the other registrar verify the cancellation. New law instead requires the registrar to cancel the prior registration in the other parish.

Existing law (R.S. 18:110) provides that a change of registration based upon a change of residence within a parish received after the closing of registration for a primary election shall become effective the day after the general election or special general election when a special primary election is held in conjunction with a general election. Existing law provides exceptions for when registration is cancelled or changed under certain specific circumstances.

New law further provides that a change of registration based upon a change of residence within a parish received after the closing of registration for a closed party primary election shall become effective the day after the second party primary election.

Existing law provides that in a regularly scheduled general election where the only candidate's election appearing on any ballot in the parish is a special primary election, a change in registration shall become effective prior to the special primary election.

New law further provides that such a change shall become effective for the special primary election if made prior to the close of registration for the general election.

Existing law provides that in a regularly scheduled or special general election, where the change of registration does not change any issues or candidate offices upon which the voter was entitled to vote prior to the change, the change shall become effective prior to the regularly scheduled or special general election.

New law further provides that such a change shall become effective for the general election if made prior to the close of registration for the general election.

Existing law (R.S. 18:154) provides, generally, that the records of each registrar are public records and at all times during office hours shall be open to inspection, except the early voting confirmation sheets of voters. Further provides that the name and address of a law enforcement officer shall not be subject to disclosure if the registrar has received certification from the law enforcement agency employing the officer that the officer is engaging in hazardous activities and it is necessary for his name and address to be kept confidential. Provides that any agency employing a law enforcement officer whose records are made confidential shall also issue a decertification notice to the registrar of voters when the officer is no longer engaging in hazardous activities.

New law further provides that the law enforcement officer may submit written notice to the registrar of voters that it is no longer necessary for his name and address to be kept confidential.

New law provides that upon receipt of a notification from either the employing agency or the law enforcement officer, the registrar shall remove the indication of certification for the affected law enforcement officer from the state voter registration computer system.

Existing law (R.S. 18:192), requires the Dept. of State to conduct two separate annual canvasses of registered voters, one occurring no later than July 31st, and another occurring no later than June 30th. New law provides that the department is not required to conduct either canvass in a calendar year when there is less than 60 days between a regularly scheduled or special election date and the opening of qualifying for a regularly scheduled or special primary election.

When conducting the annual canvass, existing law requires the Dept. of State to use address data obtained pursuant to a written agreement from another state or federal governmental agency or private vendor that provides voter registration eligibility or address data to verify the names and addresses of the registrants in all precincts in the state.

Existing law requires the Dept. of State to use information available in the state voter registration computer system to conduct the annual canvass and identify registrants whose names do not appear with a corrected address. Prior law required that such information be provided by the United States Postal Service (USPS) or its licensee.

New law instead provides that the Dept. of State shall use information provided pursuant to the written agreement provided for in existing law, instead of information provided by the USPS or its licensee.

Existing law (R.S. 18:193) provides for the placement of registrants on the inactive list of voters when the registrar has reason to believe that the registrant is no longer qualified to be registered, or that a registrant has changed his residence.

Prior law provided that the registrant shall not be placed on the inactive list of voters if there is address information available to the registrar from the USPS or its licensee. New law instead provides that the registrant shall not be placed on the inactive list of voters if there is address information available to the registrar.

Existing law provides for the use of an address confirmation notice to confirm the address of a registered voter. Existing law (R.S. 18:191.1) provides that the address confirmation notice shall include a postage prepaid and preaddressed return notice sent by forwardable mail and shall inform the registrant about his voting rights under the address confirmation process.

Prior law required registered voters who appear at a polling location on election day to confirm their address using an address confirmation *notice*. New law (R.S. 18:196(B), 562(B), 565(B), 571, 573, 1309(D)(2), 1315(D)(2), and 1333) instead requires such voters to confirm their address using an address confirmation *form*.

Existing law provides that if a registrant whose name is on the inactive list of voters votes absentee by mail or during early voting, the registrar shall transfer the registrant's name to the official list of voters and make any necessary corrections in the registrant's registration records if the information on the address confirmation notice or the residential address provided in an application to vote by mail so indicates.

New law requires the same if a registrant whose name is on the inactive list of voters applies to vote absentee by mail. Further requires the registrar to change the registrant's registration address to the residential address provided on the address confirmation form or application to vote by mail.

Prior law (R.S. 18:197) provided that no registrar was authorized to cancel the registration of any voter in his parish between any primary election and the subsequent general election occurring in that parish, except for those fraudulently placed upon the registration records or canceled pursuant to the annual canvass conducted by the registrar.

New law instead places a limitation on cancellations between any *open* primary and subsequent general election, unless the registration was illegally or fraudulently placed upon the registration records, the registrant is no longer qualified to be registered for a reason other than a change of residence or address, the registrant has deliberately given an incorrect address, or the registration was cancelled pursuant to the annual canvass conducted by the registrar.

Existing law (R.S. 18:107) provides that an applicant for registration who declares party affiliation as "Independent" or with the "Independent Party" shall have his party affiliation entered as "No Party".

New law further provides that on and after September 1, 2026, a person who is registered as or who applies for registration as "unaffiliated" shall have his party affiliation changed to "no party".

Existing law (R.S. 18:154) prohibits circulating on a commercial list or otherwise disclosing the voter registration application and any information contained on the voter registration application of any person who is 16 or 17 years of age.

New law, effective Feb. 1, 2027, provides that the voter registration information of a person who is 17 years of age may appear in a precinct register when that person will be 18 years of age within seven days before an election day.

Election Emergencies

Existing law (R.S. 18:401.1) provides that the governor may, upon issuance of an executive order declaring a state of emergency or impending emergency, suspend or delay any qualifying of candidates, early voting, or elections. Provides that a vacancy in a party primary office that may not be filled by appointment, designation, or in accordance with the timeframes required by law shall constitute an emergency, and the governor may proclaim a state of emergency for purposes of calling a special election to fill the vacancy.

Existing law provides that the proclamation ordering the special election in such a party primary office shall include the dates for qualifying, early voting, the general election, and at least one party primary election.

Prior law also required that the proclamation include the date for a primary election other than the party primary election. New law repeals prior law.

Parish Board of Election Supervisors, Duties

Prior law (R.S. 18:433) provided that the parish board of election supervisors would meet at 10:00 a.m. on the second Friday in January of each year to select commissioners-in-charge, or if the course of instruction for commissioners-in-charge was delayed, at 10:00 a.m. on or before the fifth day after completion of the course.

New law instead requires that the parish board meet *on or before* the second Friday in January and removes the requirement that the parish board meet at 10:00 a.m. in either circumstance.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1314) provides that the parish board of election supervisors shall meet on the fifth day before a primary election and on the fifth day before a general election to select parish board commissioners necessary to count absentee and early voting ballots. Prior law required that the parish board meet at 10:00 a.m. in both instances. New law removes the requirement that the parish board meet at 10:00 a.m. in either circumstance.

Existing law (R.S. 18:574) requires the parish board of election supervisors, immediately after the completion of the verification by the clerk of court and the counting and tabulation of provisional ballots for federal office, to publicly prepare compiled statements of the election returns as shown by the record of the votes made by the clerk of court.

Prior law required the parish board to prepare two compiled statements and mail one copy of the compiled statement to the secretary of state. Further required the clerk to transmit the other copy to the secretary of state.

New law instead requires the parish board to prepare one compiled statement and requires the clerk to transmit an electronic copy to the secretary of state.

Election Administration, Generally

Existing law (R.S. 18:402) provides for prohibited election days. Prior law provided that if the date of any fall election fell on any prohibited day, the election was held on the same *weekday* of the preceding week. New law instead provides that the election shall be held on the same *day* of the preceding week.

Existing law (R.S. 18:402(G)(1)) as amended and reenacted by Act No. 640 of the 2024 R.S. of the Legislature of La. provides that the fall gubernatorial and congressional election dates shall be the regularly scheduled statewide elections for purposes of voting on constitutional amendments.

Existing law (R.S. 18:532, 532.1, and 1922.2) provides for the establishment of precincts and changing of boundaries and other reapportionment plans. Requires the parish governing authority or local governing body, prior to adoption, to submit proposed precincts or boundaries to the clerk and registrar to confirm the ability to conduct an election on the proposed plan.

New law requires the clerk and registrar to submit their confirmation in writing and requires the parish governing authority or local governing body to submit the confirmation to the secretary.

Existing law (R.S. 18:564 and 1309.3) provides that the person assisting a voter needing assistance on election day or early voting shall complete a voter assistance form and provide the name, address, and relationship to the voter of the person, including a commissioner, assisting the voter and attest whether the person, other than a commissioner, assisting the voter was paid to provide assistance.

Prior law required the voter needing assistance to also complete the form. New law repeals prior law.

Existing law (R.S. 18:602, 604, and 621) requires the secretary of state, after receiving a proclamation ordering a special election to fill a vacancy, to notify all election officials having any duty in connection with a special election to fill such vacancy, including the parish boards of election supervisors for the parish or parishes in which the vacancy occurred.

Prior law required the secretary of state to provide the notice within 24 hours of receiving the proclamation. New law instead requires the secretary of state to provide the notice immediately.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1259) prescribes the arrangement of the ballot. Prior law required certain information to appear directly to the left of the names of the presidential and vice presidential candidates. New law requires that the information instead appear in addition to the names of the candidates.

Existing law (R.S. 18:551) provides that party primary offices shall be listed first on a ballot in a *primary* election for a party primary office.

Prior law also provided that party primary offices be listed first on a ballot in a *general* election for a party primary office. New law repeals prior law and instead provides that the party primary office instead be placed in the regular ballot order with all other offices on the ballot.

Prior law (R.S. 18:1300.2) provided that the secretary of state shall, upon receipt of a recall petition, *endorse* thereon the fact and date of filing. New law instead provides that the secretary of state shall *certify* the fact and date of filing.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1300.3) provides procedures for the certification of signatures on a recall petition. Provides that the registrar of voters for each parish in the voting area may request and accept the assistance of employees of the Dept. of State and registrars and deputy registrars of voters from other parishes to complete the certification of the recall petition. Prior law provided that each person offering such assistance would be considered a deputy registrar of the requesting parish registrar for that purpose only. New law repeals prior law.

Prior law (R.S. 18:1413) provided that if a time interval provided in existing law (Election Code) ended on a Sunday or other legal holiday, then noon of the next legal day would be deemed to be the end of the time interval.

New law changes the end of the time interval to 4:30 p.m. on the next legal day.

Procurement and Delivery of Voting Machines

Existing law (R.S. 18:1367.2) provides that any person who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of a contract of a voting system or system components issued by the applicable chief procurement officer shall protest to the chief procurement officer. Provides

that protests with respect to a solicitation shall be submitted in writing at least 10 days prior to the opening of bids.

Prior law provided that in addition to any other relief, when the protest was administratively or judicially sustained and the protesting bidder or proposer should have been awarded the contract but was not, the protesting bidder or proposer was entitled to the reasonable costs incurred in connection with the solicitation, including bid or proposal preparation costs other than attorney fees, provided that any administrative determination of such costs were subject to the written concurrence of the attorney general.

New law instead provides that a protestant who timely protests a solicitation or an award may apply for a stay at least 10 days prior to the opening of bids to protest a solicitation or an award. Provides that the protest bond and stay application shall be conducted in the manner provided in existing law (La. Procurement Code).

Existing law (R.S. 18:1367.11) provides for actions objecting to the solicitation or award of a contract. Prior law provided for the action to be tried summarily, without a jury, and in open court and that the trial would begin no later than 14 days after suit was filed.

New law instead provides that the action shall be heard summarily on the administrative record.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1371) provides for the secretary of state to contract for the delivery of voting machines and equipment. Prior law required that the secretary procure the contract through the method of advertising and letting according to existing law (La. Procurement Code).

New law instead authorizes the secretary of state to contract for such services in accordance with existing law (La. Procurement Code), without regard to a specific method of procurement.

Existing law requires the secretary of state to provide notice of invitations to be in a specific manner not otherwise provided for in existing law (La. Procurement Code) when seeking to award a contract by competitive sealed bid.

Candidate Qualifying and Withdrawal

Prior law (R.S. 18:465) required that each voter who signed a nominating petition date his signature and provide the ward and precinct in which he was registered to vote, his residence address, including the municipal number, the apartment number, if any, the rural route and box number, or any other physical description that would identify his actual place of residence. Additionally required that the name of each voter who signed the nominating petition be typed or legibly written on the petition, and each signature on the nominating petition be dated and witnessed by the candidate or the person who obtained the signature on his behalf.

New law instead requires each voter who signs the petition to provide the information generally required for petitions submitted to the registrar, which includes the voter's signature or mark, the date that the voter signed the petition, his year of birth, the address at which he is registered to vote, his name either typed or legibly written, the printed name of the person who witnessed and who obtained the signature either typed or legibly written, and the month, day, and year on which the person witnessed and obtained the signature.

New law authorizes the registrar for each parish that is required to certify a nominating petition to request and accept the assistance of employees of the Dept. of State and registrars and deputy registrars of voters from other parishes to complete the certification of the nominating petition.

Existing law (R.S. 18:469) provides that when a candidate that has opposition in a primary election for a public office dies after the close of the qualifying period and before the time for closing the polls on the day of the primary election, the qualifying period for candidates in the primary election for that office shall reopen for candidates on the day after the death and shall close on the third day after notice of the death.

New law provides that the qualifying period shall reopen on the day after the secretary of state receives *actual notice* of the death.

Existing law (R.S. 18:501) provides that if the number of candidates remaining in a primary election, second party primary election, or general election for a public office is one more than the number of persons to be elected to the office, the secretary of state shall accept a notice of withdrawal that is filed prior to 4:30 p.m. on the second day prior to the first day of early voting.

New law provides that the secretary of state shall accept a notice received on the second *business* day prior to the first day of early voting.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1254) provides for nominating petitions for the office of presidential elector. Prior law required that petitions be in the form prescribed for nominating petitions generally, including that each sheet of the petition include the candidate's name and domiciliary address. Further required that the petition for presidential elector include the names of the candidate for president and the candidate for vice president whom the candidates for elector support.

New law removes the requirement that each sheet include the candidate's name and domiciliary address and instead provides that each sheet of the petition include the names of the candidate for president and the candidate for vice president whom the candidates for elector support. New law otherwise requires the petition to be in the form prescribed for nominating petitions generally.

Absentee by Mail and Early Voting

Existing law (R.S. 18:1303) authorizes certain persons to vote absentee by mail. Provides that a qualified voter who is an employee of the secretary of state or a registrar of voters for a parish other than the parish where the person is registered to vote may vote absentee by mail if he submits to his parish registrar of voters a copy of a state employee identification card or identification card showing employment with the registrar of voters.

New law additionally authorizes such a qualified voter employed by the Dept. of State to submit a letter from his supervisor on Dept. of State letterhead confirming his employment, or a paystub; and a qualified voter employed by a registrar of voters to submit a letter from the registrar of voters confirming his employment, or a paystub.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1309) provides for early voting commissioners. Provides that a person may serve as an early voting commissioner only if he has received a certificate of instruction and attended a course of instruction for early voting commissioners.

New law also requires a person serving as an early voting commissioner to be a qualified voter who is able to perform the essential duties of a commissioner.

Prior law further provided specific criteria for which a person was disqualified from serving as an early voting commissioner.

New law instead provides that an early voting commissioner shall meet the same qualifications as an election day commissioner.

Prior law required that the list of early voting watchers be filed with the registrar of voters before 4:30 p.m. on the 14th business day before the first day of early voting. New law instead requires that the list be filed before 4:30 p.m. on the 10th business day before the first day of early voting.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1310) provides for the marking of an absentee by mail ballot. New law provides that in order to cast a vote on an absentee by mail ballot, a voter must make a selection for a candidate or for or against a proposition by completely filling in the oval to the right of a selection and returning the ballot to the registrar of voters as provided in existing law within the applicable deadline set forth by law. Provides that if a voter makes selections for more than the number of candidates to be elected for an office or makes selections for and against the same proposition, the selections for that office or proposition are void.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1313 and 1313.1) provides that absentee by mail and early voting ballots shall be counted at a time fixed by the parish board of election supervisors which shall be on election day no later than 8:00 p.m.

New law further provides that if the time selected by the parish board of election supervisors to count absentee by mail and early voting ballots is after 4:00 p.m. on election day, the start time must be submitted to the commissioner of elections for approval no later than the fourth day prior to election day.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1315(A)) provides that a challenge of an absentee by mail ballot may be filed with the registrar no later than the fourth day before the election. Prior law provided the same for early voting ballots. New law instead provides that early voting ballots may be challenged prior to the person casting an early voting ballot, in which case the voter shall cast his vote on a paper ballot instead of on an early voting machine.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1315(B)) provides that failure to include a witness's mailing address on an absentee ballot certificate shall not be grounds to challenge an absentee by mail ballot.

New law further provides that failure to include a witness's printed name on the absentee ballot certificate shall not be grounds to challenge an absentee by mail ballot.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1316) provides for the parish board to reject an absentee by mail or early voting ballot having distinguishing marks; provides for circumstances that shall lead to the rejection of a ballot and for certain ballots that shall not be considered as having distinguishing marks.

New law authorizes the secretary of state to adopt rules necessary to effectuate existing law.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1317) provides for the curing of absentee mail ballot deficiencies. New law provides that the failure of a witness to provide his printed name or address on the absentee by mail certificate shall not be deemed a deficiency requiring cure.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1333) provides for the nursing home early voting program authorizing qualified voters who reside in a nursing home to vote early during the period extending two weeks prior to the beginning day for early voting through the last day for early voting, which is seven days prior to the scheduled election.

New law extends the nursing home early voting period to end on the fourth day before election day.

Election Contests

Existing law (R.S. 18:1401) provides for election contests and challenges, including actions objecting to candidacy, actions brought by a candidate or person in interest contesting an election, actions objecting to the calling of a special election to fill a vacancy, actions contesting the certification of a recall petition, and actions contesting a recall election.

New law authorizes a qualified elector to bring an action objecting to the placement of a constitutional amendment on a ballot.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1402) provides for the proper parties to the various actions contesting an election.

New law provides that the secretary of state, in his official capacity, is a proper party in an action objecting to the placement of a constitutional amendment on the ballot.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1405) provides for the timing for the commencement of election contests and provides for the deadlines to file an action objecting to candidacy, an action contesting any election involving election to office, an action contesting an election submitting certain propositions to the voters, an action objecting to the calling of a special election, and an action contesting any election involving the recall of a public officer, but does not provide for the first day such actions can be filed.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1405 and 1413) provides that an action objecting to candidacy shall be instituted not later than 4:30 p.m. of the seventh day after the close of qualifications for candidates in the primary election. Provides that after the expiration of the time period, no further action shall be commenced objecting to candidacy based on the grounds for objections to candidacy. Provides that computation of time intervals shall include Sundays and other legal holidays; however, if the time interval ends on a Sunday or other legal holiday, then noon of the next legal day shall be deemed to be the end of the time interval. Prior law (R.S. 18:493) reiterated the same provisions.

New law repeals the reiteration contained in R.S. 18:493.

New law provides that an action objecting to candidacy shall be instituted no earlier than the day the candidate submits his notice of candidacy to the qualifying official.

New law provides that an action contesting any election involving election to office, an action contesting an election submitting certain propositions to the voters, or an action contesting any election involving the recall of a public officer shall be instituted no earlier than the day after the date of the election.

New law provides that an action objecting to the calling of a special election shall be instituted no earlier than the date the election is called.

New law provides that an action objecting to the placement of a constitutional amendment on the ballot shall be instituted no earlier than the date of the final passage of the joint resolution calling the election and no later than 4:30 p.m. of the 30th day after final passage of the legislative instrument calling the election.

Election for Representative in U.S. Congress in 2026

Existing law (R.S. 18:2(9)) provides that representative in Congress is a party primary office. New law, for 2026 only, provides that representative in Congress is not a party primary office.

New law provides that the May 16, 2026, and June 27, 2026, party primary elections for representative in Congress are cancelled. Provides that votes cast in the May 16, 2026, or June 27, 2026, party primary election for representative in Congress shall be void and not counted. Provides that no election official shall disclose votes cast in the May 16, 2026, or June 27, 2026, party primary election for representative in Congress.

New law provides that the secretary of state shall remit to each candidate the state portion of the qualifying fee and the additional \$25 qualifying fee that the candidate paid to qualify for the May 16, 2026, and June 27, 2026, party primary elections for representative in Congress. Requires the secretary of state to cancel any nominating petition received for the May 16, 2026, and June 27, 2026, party primary elections for representative in Congress.

New law provides that candidates for representative in Congress shall be elected at the open primary election to be held on Nov. 3, 2026, and the open general election to be held on Dec. 12, 2026.

Prior law provided that the qualifying period for all candidates for the Nov. 3, 2026, fall primary election was July 29, 2026, through 4:30 p.m. on July 31, 2026. New law instead provides that the qualifying period for *all* candidates in the 2026 fall primary election, including candidates for representative in the United States Congress, shall begin on Aug. 5, 2026. Provides that the qualifying period for such candidates shall close at 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 7, 2026.

Existing law provides that the number of qualified voters who must timely sign a nominating petition for representative in Congress shall be 750 from within the district. For a candidate for representative in the United States Congress for the 2026 congressional election, new law instead provides that the number of qualified voters who must timely sign a nominating petition shall be 250.

Existing law provides that each page of the nominating petition shall set forth the office for which the signers nominate him. For a nominating petition for a candidate for representative

in the United States Congress for the 2026 congressional election, new law provides that the nominating petition shall not be required to set forth the congressional district for which the candidate seeks to qualify until the petition is submitted to the registrar of voters.

New law provides that a qualified voter may sign the nominating petition upon the effective date of new law (May 14, 2026). Provides that the nominating petition shall be submitted to the registrar of voters no later than July 9, 2026.

Effectiveness

Provisions of new law changing unaffiliated registration to "no party" are effective September 1, 2026. Provisions of new law relative to registration information of seventeen-year-olds are effective February 1, 2027. Provisions of new law relative to Act No. 640 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature and the elections for representative in Congress in 2026 are effective on signature of governor (May 14, 2026). Remaining provisions of new law are effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 18:2(9), 53(B)(2)(b), 55(D), 59(F), 62, 108(A), 110(B)(3), 154(C)(1)(h) and (D)(1) and (3) and (F)(8), 192(B)(1)(a), 193(A), 196(B) and (C)(2)(a), 197, 401.1(H), 402(A)(1), 433(B)(1), 465(B) and (D), 469(A), 491(B), 493, 495(B), 501(C), 532(F), 532.1(C)(1) and (4), 551(B)(2)(intro. para.), 562(B)(2), 564(B)(5)(b), 565(B) and (C), 571(A)(8), 573(E), 574(A)(2) and (3), 602(E)(2)(d), 604(B)(2)(c), 621(B), 1254(C), 1259(B)(2)(intro. para.), 1300.2(C)(1), 1300.3(A)(1)(b), 1303(K) and (L), 1309(D)(2), (K), and (N)(5), 1309.3(B)(4)(b), 1313(C)(1) and (H)(3) and (5), 1313.1(C)(2) and (I)(2), 1314(B)(2) and (C)(2)(a) and (3), 1315(A)(1) and (2)(intro. para.), (B), and (D)(2), 1317, 1333(B) and (G)(1) and (7), 1367.2(F), 1367.11(A), 1371(A)(1) and (2)(intro. para.), 1401(G), 1402(B)(1)(a), 1405, 1413, and 1922.2(B)(2); Adds R.S. 18:106.2, 107(H), 110(B)(1)(c), 192(C), 465(E)(3), 1310(A)(3), 1316(D), 1401(H), and 1922.2(B)(3))