

HOUSE BILL NO. 1597—

BY REPRESENTATIVES BRUNEAU, LANCASTER, COPELIN, MURRAY, ROUSSELLE, SCALISE, WELCH, WINSTON, AND HUNTER

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:3(A)(3), 59(I)(2), 110(B)(1), 154(C), 171, 171.1(A)(1), 176, 193(A), (B), (C), (E), and (F), 196(B)(3), 198(A), 402(F)(5), 431(A)(1)(a), 433(A)(1), (2), and (3) and (D), 434(B)(6), 467(2), 469(A), 532(B)(1) and (E), 532.1(B), (C)(1), (2)(a) and (3)(a), and (D), 551(B)(2) and (E), 553(B), 573(A)(3), 574(E)(1), 575(B), 591, 601, 602(E)(2)(a) and (d), 604(B)(2)(a) and (c), 621(B), 652(A), 654, 1278(B), 1279, 1280.22, 1285(B)(1), 1300(C)(2)(a), 1300.7(B), 1306(B), 1309(A)(2) and (D), 1313(B) and (I), 1314(C) and (D), 1402(C), 1495.5(B)(19) and (C), 1505.2(C)(1), 1903, and 1904, to enact R.S. 18:177, 401.1, 402(E)(4), 1307(E), and 1463(D) and (E), and to repeal R.S. 18:532.1(H) and 1399(A), relative to the election code; to make technical changes to the elections code; to require the date of birth to be included on petitions submitted to the registrar; to allow the use of temporary personnel to conduct absentee voting; to allow a change of registration or address between the primary and general elections for certain persons; to provide that a person moving within the parish will not be placed on the inactive list; to prohibit the disclosure of a voter's social security number; to provide for procedures for notification of registrars of persons under an order of imprisonment; to provide a procedure for suspension of registration; to provide for a procedure for reinstatement of the registration of a person whose registration has been suspended; to provide with respect to the conduct of elections in the event of a state of emergency; to change the period of time that the clerk of court can conduct the annual course of instruction for commissioners; to require that during his term of office a commissioner-in-charge must remain a certified commissioner; to provide that a commissioner affiliated with each recognized political party will be assigned to each precinct in the parish provided there are such commissioners available; to provide with respect to the reopening of qualifying due to the death of a candidate; to provide for two separate ballots when the special election to fill a vacancy and the regularly scheduled election cover different geographic areas; to provide procedures for inspection and preparation of voting machines at the polling places; to allow for reinspection of voting machines and inspection of absentee ballot flaps upon a candidate's written request; to provide for procedures for promulgation of election returns for candidates; to require inclusion of the qualifying dates in the proclamation calling an election to fill a vacancy; to eliminate the requirement to send certain notices by certified or registered mail; to clarify certain issues and procedures with respect to the presidential preference primary; to provide the deadline for submission of the notice and changes thereto for proposition elections; to provide with respect to certain procedures regarding absentee voting; to provide for the counting of absentee ballots; to provide that for informational purposes the registrar may assist the clerk of court in conducting the course of instruction for commissioners; to allow extension of absentee voting hours under certain circumstances; to allow the secretary of state and the commissioner of elections to present evidence in a contested election; to make technical changes relating to the candidate's reports under the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act; to remove references to repealed provisions; to provide for precinct freezes and other areas with respect to reapportionment; to provide the procedure for notice of challenge and cancellation of registration; to change the qualifying dates for congressional elections; to provide with respect to printing of ballots in uniform type; to provide penalties for distributing false political material; to provide with respect to filling of vacancies; to provide when resignations become effective; and to provide for related matters.