Existing law provides requirements and procedures for registering to vote. Generally requires a prospective registrant to apply for registration by making application in person to a registrar or deputy registrar of the parish in which he seeks to register, by submitting the federal postcard application form as authorized by existing law, through the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, through certain designated voter registration agencies, electronically on the secretary of state's website, or by mail using the national mail voter registration form, the state mail voter registration form, or a computer-generated form thereof containing the same requests for information. Provides specific voter registration procedures for persons who are unable to register in person because they are in the U.S. Service or because they reside outside of the U.S.

Prior law required a person who was unable to register in person because he was in the U.S. Service or because he resided outside the U.S. to return registration documents by mail to the registrar. New law allows for the transmission of registration documents by facsimile or other means of transmission in addition to mailing.

Existing law provides requirements and procedures for voting absentee by mail. Provides a list of persons entitled to vote absentee by mail. Requires a prospective absentee by mail voter to apply to the registrar to vote absentee by mail. Provides procedures for such application and requires the submission of certain information. Provides that an application to vote absentee by mail may be delivered to the registrar by any means, including the U.S.P.S., commercial delivery service, hand delivery, or facsimile. New law provides that with respect to members of the U.S. Service and persons residing outside the U.S. who are registered to vote, an application to vote absentee by mail may also be delivered to the registrar by electronic transmission.

Existing law provides that an applicant who is a member of the U.S. Service or who resides outside the U.S. may use the federal postcard application to apply to vote absentee by mail and that the application shall be received by the registrar no later than 4:30 p.m. on the day before the election. Provides for the continuing validity of such an application. New law additionally provides that such a person may use an application electronically transmitted by the registrar or the secretary of state to apply to vote absentee by mail.

Existing law provides procedures and requirements for voting absentee by mail. Requires a voter to execute a certificate stating that the statements made by him are true and correct and that the voter is aware of the penalties for knowingly making a false statement.

Prior law required the voter, in signing the certificate, to obtain the signature of a notary public unless he signed the certificate in the presence of two witnesses who also signed the certificate. Allowed certain disabled voters to execute the certificate in the presence of one witness. New law provides that a voter who is not a member of the U.S. Service or person residing outside of the U.S. is not required to obtain the signature of a notary if he executes the certificate in the presence of one witness instead of two witnesses. Repeals the notary and witness requirements for members of the U.S. Service and persons residing outside of the U.S.

Existing law provides relative to transmission of absentee by mail election materials. Requires the registrar of voters to mail the necessary instructions, certificates, ballots, and envelopes to the applicant. Provides specific procedures for mailing materials to members of the U.S. Service and persons residing outside of the U.S. Provides that materials may be electronically transmitted to such voters for a federal general election.

New law specifies that materials may be electronically transmitted to members of the U.S. Service and persons residing outside of the U.S. for federal candidates in congressional elections, presidential preference primary elections, and presidential elections. Requires the registrar to mail or electronically transmit such materials at least 45 days prior to the election for voters who have made application and requested such transmission prior to such time.

Existing law requires that the ballots mailed to military and overseas voters include both the primary election ballot and the special ballot for the general election. Prior law prohibited the registrar of voters from mailing a regular general election absentee ballot to such a voter if the registrar had mailed the special ballot. New law provides that the registrar shall mail

the voter a regular general election absentee ballot if it includes one or more elections that were not included on the special ballot sent to the voter.

Existing law provides that members of the U.S. Service and persons residing outside of the U.S. may use the ballot transmittal envelope from the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to mail electronically transmitted federal general election voting materials. New law specifies that existing law applies to voting materials for congressional elections, presidential preference primary elections, and presidential elections.

Existing law requires the secretary of state prior to an election to deliver absentee by mail materials to the registrar, including special ballots, certificates, and instructions to be electronically transmitted to voters. Prior law required such materials to be delivered at least 45 days prior to the election for presidential elections and congressional general elections. New law changes the deadline from 45 days before the election to 46 days before the election. Specifies that the deadline additionally applies to presidential preference primary elections and congressional primary elections.

Existing law provides that voting absentee by mail for presidential and congressional candidates is conducted pursuant to existing law provisions relative to absentee by mail voting generally. New law specifies that existing law applies additionally to presidential preference primary elections.

Existing law provides that a member of the U.S. Service or person residing outside the U.S. who made a timely application to vote absentee by mail and who did not receive absentee by mail ballots may use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to vote in presidential elections and congressional elections. New law specifies that such ballot may be used to vote for candidates for presidential nominee, presidential candidates, and congressional candidates.

New law makes various technical changes.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 24, 2011).

(Amends R.S. 18:103(B)(3)(b) and (C)(3)(b), 1306(E)(2), 1307(C), 1308(A)(2), 1308.2, 1310(A)(2), and 1319; Adds R.S. 18:1307(B)(1)(c))