

Existing law prohibits certain conduct related to withdrawal of a candidate in an election. Prohibits a person from knowingly, willfully, or intentionally:

- (1) Giving or offering to give, directly or indirectly, any thing of apparent present or prospective value to any person who has withdrawn or who was eliminated as a candidate for public office for the purpose of securing or giving his political support to any remaining candidate or candidates for public office in the primary or general election.
- (2) When such person is a candidate for public office who has withdrawn or was eliminated, accepting or offering to accept, directly or indirectly, any thing of apparent present or prospective value that is given for the purpose of securing or giving his political support to any remaining candidate or candidates for public office in the primary or general election.

Existing law provides that whoever violates any provision of existing law shall be fined not more than \$2,000 or be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than two years, or both, for the first offense. Provides that on any subsequent offense the penalty shall be a fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment at hard labor for not more than five years, or both.

New law additionally prohibits a person from knowingly, willfully, or intentionally:

- (1) Giving or offering to give, directly or indirectly, any thing of apparent present or prospective value to a candidate for public office for the purpose of securing the candidate's withdrawal from an election.
- (2) Soliciting or accepting, directly or indirectly, any thing of apparent present or prospective value to secure the withdrawal from an election of a candidate for public office.

New law provides that existing law penalties shall apply to violations of new law.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Adds R.S. 18:1461.5(A)(4))