DIGEST

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HB 230 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Smith

Abstract: Adds an additional day of early voting prior to the ordinary early voting period if one or more holidays occurs during the ordinary period.

Present law (R.S. 18:1309) provides that the early voting period for an election is the period from 14 days to seven days prior to the election. Requires the office of the registrar to be open from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on each day that the registrar is required to be open during the early voting period. Provides that early voting on each day of the early voting period terminates when all persons who were in line to vote at the close of the regular office hours of the registrar's office have been allowed to vote.

<u>Present law</u> requires the registrar to observe the holidays which are provided by law or proclaimed by the governor for state departments during any period for conducting early voting.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u>. Provides that one day of early voting is added to the period provided in <u>present law</u> if one or more holidays occurs on a weekday during that period. Provides that the additional day is the first day preceding the period described in <u>present law</u> that is not a Sunday or a holiday.

(Amends R.S. 18:1302(4) and 1309(A)(1))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:

1. Specify that the holiday must be observed on a weekday for proposed law to apply.