

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 751

BY REPRESENTATIVE DWIGHT

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:31(A), 106(C)(2)(a), 132(A), 154(C)(1)(f), 421(B),
3 435(A)(1)(b), 453(B), 463(A)(1)(a) and (c), 532(C) and (D), 532.1(A), (D)(1)(b)(i),
4 and (F), 553(B)(5), 564(D)(1)(a)(i) and (2)(a)(i) and (b), 573(E)(1), 1303(I)(1)(c),
5 1307.1(B), 1309(B), (E)(1), and (K)(1), 1309.1, 1309.3(D)(1)(a)(i), 1373(A),
6 1400.3(D)(4) and (E)(4), 1402(A), 1406(D), 1461.7(A)(4), and 1945, to enact R.S.
7 18:113.1, 115(F)(2)(e), 467.2, and 532.1(C)(4), and to repeal R.S. 18:467.2, relative
8 to the Louisiana Election Code; to revise the system of laws comprising the
9 Louisiana Election Code; to provide relative to elections procedures and
10 requirements; to provide relative to cybersecurity training; to provide relative to
11 voter registration; to provide relative to assistance in voting; to provide relative to
12 location of registrar of voters office; to provide relative to candidates for public
13 office; to provide relative to voter's rights; to provide relative to watchers; to provide
14 for the content of the notice of candidacy; to provide relative to the establishment of
15 precincts; to provide relative to absentee voting; to provide relative to early voting;
16 to provide relative to certification of early voting commissioners; to provide relative
17 to the preparation of voting machines for an election; to provide relative to
18 extraordinary election expenses; to provide relative to objecting to candidacy and
19 contesting an election; to provide relative to election offense penalties; to provide
20 relative to redistricting plans; to provide relative to compensation of commissioners;
21 to provide relative to withdrawal of candidates; to provide relative to recount and
22 reinspection; and to provide for related matters.

23 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

1 Section 1. R.S. 18:31(A), 106(C)(2)(a), 132(A), 154(C)(1)(f), 421(B), 435(A)(1)(b),
2 453(B), 463(A)(1)(c), 532(C) and (D), 532.1(A), (D)(1)(b)(i), and (F), 553(B)(5),
3 564(D)(1)(a)(i) and (2)(a)(i) and (b), 573(E)(1), 1303(I)(1)(c), 1307.1(B), 1309(B) and
4 (E)(1), 1309.1, 1309.3(D)(1)(a)(i), 1373(A), 1400.3(D)(4) and (E)(4), 1402(A), 1406(D),
5 1461.7(A)(4) and 1945 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:113.1 and
6 532.1(C)(4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §31. State voter registration computer system; parish computer system

8 A.(1) The secretary of state shall establish a state voter registration computer
9 system for the registration of voters throughout the state in accordance with the
10 provisions of this Title.

11 (2) The secretary of state shall prepare a minimum of one hour of training
12 on cybersecurity for all persons who have user credentials to access the computer
13 network operated or managed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall
14 require each such person to complete this training annually in order to maintain
15 credentialed access to the computer network.

16 * * *

17 §106. Physical disability; inability to write English; language minority groups;
18 execution of documents; assistance

19 * * *

20 C.

21 * * *

22 (2) For purposes of this Subsection proof of disability means one of the
23 following:

24 (a) A certificate of a medical doctor, ~~or optometrist,~~ physician assistant as
25 defined in R.S. 37:1360.22, or nurse practitioner as defined in R.S. 37:913 certifying
26 to the irremediable nature of the physical disability.

27 * * *

28 §113.1. Denial or cancellation of registration; correction of errors

29 If a person's registration was denied or cancelled and the registrar of voters
30 determines that the registration was not processed correctly or was cancelled through

1 an error of the registrar of voters, the registrar of voters shall process and approve
2 the registration or correct the error and reinstate the registration.

3 * * *

4 §132. Offices furnished registrar; supplies; expenses

5 A. Except as otherwise provided by law, the governing authority of each
6 parish shall furnish the office space required by law for the registrar and also shall
7 be responsible for the cost of all equipment and supplies, including all furniture,
8 books, stationery, and other expenses for the operation of each office necessary to
9 enable the registrar fully to discharge his duties. The parish governing authority
10 shall provide space for the registrar's principal office in the courthouse or in ~~close~~
11 proximity thereto a public facility within the parish, and this office shall be
12 accessible and convenient to the residents of the parish. The space to be used for this
13 office shall be specifically designated by the parish governing authority, which shall
14 designate adequate space to enable the registrar to fully discharge his duties. No
15 other official or unit of government shall have authority to designate or allocate such
16 office space. Before the expenses are paid, the registrar shall furnish the head of the
17 parish governing authority a budget of anticipated expenses for each succeeding
18 year.

19 * * *

20 §154. Records open to inspection; copying; exceptions

21 * * *

22 C.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, the
23 registrar, the clerk of court, the Department of State, the office of motor vehicles of
24 the Department of Public Safety and Corrections and any entity that contracts with
25 the office, each voter registration agency and any entity that contracts with a voter
26 registration agency, and any person who handles the voter registration application
27 form of another person shall be prohibited from circulating on a commercial list or
28 otherwise disclosing the following:

29 * * *

1 (f) The electronic mail address of a registered voter, except a registered voter
2 who has qualified as a candidate for public office.

3 * * *

4 §421. Secretary of state; first assistant and other employees of the secretary of state

5 * * *

6 B. The secretary of state shall develop and print ~~cards of instruction to the~~
7 voters' bill of rights posters for voters and commissioners, which shall not be
8 inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States or of this state and
9 which shall be approved by the attorney general.

10 * * *

11 §435. Watchers; appointment and commission

12 A.(1)

13 * * *

14 (b) In the case of a presidential election, each slate of candidates for
15 presidential elector is entitled to have one watcher at every precinct. The state
16 central committee of each recognized political party shall be responsible for filing
17 the list of watchers for its slate of candidates for presidential elector, and the list of
18 watchers shall be signed by the chairman of the state central committee. The list of
19 watchers for ~~an independent or other party~~ a slate of candidates for presidential
20 elector who are not affiliated with a recognized political party shall be signed and
21 filed by any person so authorized by the presidential candidate supported by the slate
22 of electors. A letter of authorization from the presidential candidate, or from an
23 authorized agent of his campaign, shall accompany the list of watchers.

24 * * *

25 §453. Dual candidacy

26 * * *

27 B. Unexpired and succeeding term of office. A person may become a
28 candidate ~~in a primary or general election for~~ both the unexpired and the succeeding
29 term of an office ~~when both terms are to be filled at the same election.~~

30 * * *

1 §463. Notice of candidacy; campaign finance disclosure; political advertising;
2 penalties

3 A.(1)

4 * * *

5 (c) When an agent files a notice of candidacy on behalf of a candidate, the
6 agent shall file with the qualifying official an affidavit with the signature of the
7 candidate attesting that the agent has the authorization and consent of the candidate
8 to file the notice.

9 * * *

10 §532. Establishment of precincts

11 * * *

12 C. Each parish governing authority shall provide and maintain at all times
13 geospatial shape files, if available, and a suitable printed map showing the current
14 geographical boundaries with designation of precincts, and a ~~word~~ correct, written
15 legal description of the precinct geographical boundaries. Each parish governing
16 authority shall send a copy of each map, with description attached, to the registrar
17 of voters and the secretary of state. The map may be composed of one or more
18 sheets but each sheet shall not exceed three feet by four feet. The map shall include
19 all existing roads, streets, railroad tracks, and drainage features but shall not include
20 underground utility lines, land use and zoning symbols or shadings, symbols for
21 vegetation cover, topographic contour lines, and similar items that obscure the basic
22 street pattern and names. All features, names, titles, and symbols on the map shall
23 be clearly shown and legible. The map sheet of the entire parish shall be on a scale
24 of one inch equals one mile to one inch equals two miles. Map sheets of each
25 incorporated place within the parish shall be on a scale of one inch equals eight
26 hundred feet to one inch equals sixteen hundred feet. Each map sheet shall indicate
27 the date of the base map or the date of last revision. Wherever the boundaries of a
28 precinct or incorporated place are coterminous, they shall be clearly indicated as
29 such.

1 D. The parish governing authority shall also furnish to the registrar of voters
 2 and secretary of state geospatial shape files, if available, and a printed map clearly
 3 indicating the boundaries of each parish governing authority district, school board
 4 district, special election district, representative district, and senate district, and a
 5 correct, written legal description of the boundaries.

6 * * *

7 §532.1. Changing boundaries

8 A. The parish governing authority shall have authority, in accordance with
 9 this Section, to change the configuration, boundaries, or designation of an election
 10 precinct. Any change so determined shall be adopted by ordinance of the parish
 11 governing authority. Within fifteen days after adoption of the ordinance, the parish
 12 governing authority shall send to the secretary of state a certified copy of the
 13 ordinance, a geospatial shape file, if available, ~~and~~ a printed copy of the map
 14 showing the new precinct boundaries and designations ~~together with a~~ and a correct,
 15 written legal description of such boundaries. The parish governing authority shall
 16 comply with the provisions of R.S. 18:1941 when changing precinct boundaries.

17 * * *

18 C.

19 * * *

20 (4) No precinct boundary change shall become effective for the election
 21 unless the information required in this Subsection is received by the secretary of state
 22 prior to 4:30 p.m. at least four weeks prior to the date the qualifying period opens.

23 * * *

24 D.(1)

25 * * *

26 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph to
 27 the contrary, if the legislature has completed the reapportionment required by Article
 28 III, Section 6 of the Constitution of Louisiana following the latest federal decennial
 29 census and, if required, has received preclearance pursuant to the Voting Rights Act
 30 of 1965, the parish governing authority may merge precincts upon the parish

1 governing authority's certifying in writing to the office of the secretary of state that
2 the parish governing authority and all school boards within the parish have
3 completed all redistricting that is required following the latest federal decennial
4 census, if required, have received preclearance pursuant to the Voting Rights Act of
5 1965, and have received written approval to merge the precincts from the office of
6 the secretary of state.

7 (i) A certified copy of the ordinance describing such precinct mergers, a
8 correct, written legal description of proposed new precinct boundaries, geospatial
9 shape files, if available, and a printed copy of a map clearly detailing the precinct
10 boundaries within the parish shall be sent to the secretary of the Senate, the clerk of
11 the House of Representatives, the secretary of state, the clerk of court, and the
12 registrar of voters of the parish within fifteen days after the adoption of the
13 ordinance.

14 * * *

15 F. Within fifteen days after the adoption of the ordinance as provided in this
16 Section, the parish governing authority shall send to the secretary of the Senate and
17 the clerk of the House of Representatives, the secretary of state, the clerk of court,
18 and the registrar of voters a certified copy of the ordinance, geospatial shape files,
19 if available, and a printed copy of a map showing the new precinct boundaries
20 ~~together with a~~ and a correct, written legal description of such boundaries.

21 * * *

22 §553. Inspection and preparation of voting machines at polling places; precinct
23 registers and supplemental list

24 * * *

25 B. Inspection of the voting machines. After the commissioners take their
26 oath and before the time for opening the polls, the commissioners, in the presence
27 of the watchers, shall prepare the polling place for voting as follows:

28 * * *

29 (5) The commissioners shall post the ~~instructions,~~ voters' bill of rights and
30 informational posters, if required, the statement of proposed constitutional

1 amendments on the ballot, and a sample ballot in a conspicuous place at the principal
2 entrance to the polling place, where they shall remain posted throughout the election
3 day.

4 * * *

5 §564. Assistance in voting on election day

6 * * *

7 D.(1)(a) Prior to receiving assistance pursuant to this Section due to a
8 disability, including visual impairment, the voter shall file with the registrar in
9 person or by mail a statement setting forth the necessity and reasons for this
10 assistance and shall furnish the registrar one of the following:

11 (i) A certificate of a medical doctor, ~~or optometrist,~~ physician assistant as
12 defined in R.S. 37:1360.22, or nurse practitioner as defined in R.S. 37:913 certifying
13 to the irremediable nature of the physical disability as proof of disability.

14 * * *

15 (2)(a) A voter shall also be entitled to assistance without having filed with
16 the registrar a statement setting forth the necessity and reasons for this assistance if,
17 on election day, the voter presents to the commissioner-in-charge one of the
18 following as proof of disability:

19 (i) A ~~physician's~~ certificate of a physician, optometrist, physician's assistant
20 as defined in R.S. 37:1360.22, or nurse practitioner as defined in R.S. 37:913
21 indicating the voter's inability to vote without assistance because of a physical
22 disability.

23 * * *

24 (b) The commissioner-in-charge shall place any ~~physician's~~ certificate,
25 statement setting forth the necessity and reasons for assistance, copy of proof of
26 disability, or completed and signed voter assistance form presented by a voter in the
27 envelope marked "Registrar of Voters" and attach the envelope to the precinct
28 register.

29 * * *

1 §573. Evidence of election results

2 * * *

3 E. Transmission and disposition of original challenges, duplicate voters'
4 affidavits, and address confirmation cards. (1) At the opening of the voting
5 machines, the sealed precinct registers shall be immediately returned to the registrar
6 of voters. Upon receipt of the sealed precinct registers, the registrar shall remove
7 any attached original record of challenges of voters made during the election, any
8 precinct register correction affidavits, any voter identification affidavits made
9 pursuant to R.S. 18:562, any address confirmation cards, any physical disability
10 affidavits, any ~~physicians'~~ certificates, any copies of disability documentation, and
11 any completed voter registration applications.

12 * * *

13 §1303. Persons entitled to vote in compliance with this Chapter

14 * * *

15 I. Voters with disabilities. (1) Any qualified voter who submits any of the
16 following to the registrar of voters may vote absentee by mail upon meeting the
17 requirements of this Chapter:

18 * * *

19 (c) Current proof of disability from a physician, optometrist, physician
20 assistant as defined in R.S. 37:1360.22, or nurse practitioner as defined in R.S.
21 37:913.

22 * * *

23 §1307.1. Application by person serving on sequestered jury

24 * * *

25 B. An application ~~must~~ shall be received by the registrar by noon on the day
26 of the election for which it is requested, and the date received shall be noted thereon
27 by the registrar.

28 * * *

29 §1309. Early voting; verification

30 * * *

1 B.(1) For the purpose of facilitating early voting, the registrar may designate,
 2 in addition to the location for early voting provided in Subsection A of this Section,
 3 one branch office wherein early voting may be conducted. Any such branch office
 4 shall be located in a public building, and the ~~hours~~ days during which early voting
 5 may be conducted therein shall be fixed by the registrar, with the approval of the
 6 secretary of state, at least thirty days prior to a primary election and twenty-one days
 7 prior to a general election, as provided in Subsection A of this Section, and the
 8 registrar shall post at his office adequate notice of the days on which early voting
 9 will be held at a branch office. However, if a branch office of a registrar is
 10 destroyed, inaccessible, or unsafe during or following a gubernatorially declared
 11 state of emergency, the registrar may utilize a temporary building as a branch office
 12 to discharge his duties until an office that meets the requirements of this Section
 13 becomes available. Such temporary office shall be located within the parish, or if
 14 there is no appropriate location within the parish due to the emergency, then in an
 15 immediately adjacent parish, or if there is no appropriate location in any immediately
 16 adjacent parish due to the emergency, then in the nearest parish in which there is an
 17 appropriate location.

18 (2) The registrar shall provide or post the ~~instructions,~~ voters' bill of rights
 19 and informational posters, if required, the statement of proposed constitutional
 20 amendments on the ballot, and a certified screenshot as a sample ballot in a
 21 conspicuous place at the principal entrance to the early voting polling place, where
 22 they shall remain posted throughout early voting.

23 * * *

24 E.(1) The voter's identity having been established as provided in Subsection
 25 D of this Section, the voter shall sign or make his mark prior to voting in the precinct
 26 register or early voting list register. ~~kept by the registrar prior to voting.~~

27 * * *

1 §1309.1. Preparation of machines for early voting; examination by candidate or his
2 representative; sealing machines

3 A. At the time of qualifying, the parish custodian shall notify each candidate
4 to contact the registrar of voters for the time and place at which the voting machines
5 will be prepared for early voting. The candidate or his representative may be present
6 to observe the preparation of the machines by the registrar of voters with the
7 assistance of the secretary of state's technicians and to observe the testing and sealing
8 of the machines by the registrar of voters in the presence of the parish board of
9 election supervisors. Each candidate or his representative shall be afforded a
10 reasonable opportunity to view the test vote tape for each machine to see that they
11 are in the proper condition for use in the election, which opportunity shall not be less
12 than thirty minutes beginning at the time designated by the registrar of voters to
13 begin preparation of the machines for sealing. However, no candidate,
14 representative, or citizen shall interfere with the registrar of voters, secretary of
15 state's technicians, parish board of election supervisors, or any employee or
16 technician or assume any of their duties.

17 B. Each candidate or representative shall identify to the registrar of voters
18 the candidate whom he is representing. In addition, any citizen of this state may be
19 present to observe the preparation, testing, and sealing of the machines by the
20 registrar of voters and the secretary of state's technicians and shall be afforded an
21 opportunity to inspect the test vote tape for each machine to see that they are in
22 proper condition for use for early voting.

23 C. After the machines have been examined by each candidate, ~~or~~
24 representative, or citizen who is present, the ~~parish board of election supervisors~~
25 registrar of voters and secretary of state's technicians shall generate a zero tally to
26 ensure that the voting machine's public counter is set at zero and that no votes have
27 been cast for any candidate or for or against any proposition. The registrar of voters
28 and the parish board of election supervisors shall then seal the voting machine.

29 D. The registrar of voters and the secretary of state's technicians shall record
30 the public and protective counter numbers for each early voting machine on a form

1 prepared by the secretary of state for use in verifying the early voting results on
2 election day.

3 * * *

4 §1309.3. Assistance in voting during early voting

5 * * *

6 D.(1)(a) Prior to receiving assistance pursuant to this Section because of a
7 disability, including visual impairment, the voter shall file with the registrar in
8 person or by mail a statement setting forth the necessity and reasons for this
9 assistance and shall furnish the registrar one of the following:

10 (i) A certificate of a medical doctor, ~~or optometrist,~~ physician assistant as
11 defined in R.S. 37:1360.22, or nurse practitioner as defined in R.S. 37:913 certifying
12 to the irremediable nature of the physical disability as proof of disability.

13 * * *

14 §1373. Notice of preparation of machines for election; preparation of machines for
15 election; testing and adjusting; examination by candidate or his
16 representative; securing and sealing machines

17 A.(1) The secretary of state shall notify each parish custodian of the time and
18 place at which he will begin preparing and testing the voting machines for an
19 election. The qualifying official shall at the time of qualifying provide each
20 candidate in the election with a chronological table of procedures for the election that
21 instructs the candidate to contact the parish custodian for the time and place at which
22 the preparation and testing of the machines will be conducted and when the machines
23 will be sealed and states that the candidate or his representative may be present to
24 observe the preparation; and testing; ~~and sealing~~ of the machines by the ~~parish~~
25 ~~custodian~~ secretary of state's technicians.

26 (2) The secretary of state shall prepare the voting machines for the election
27 by placing them in order, inserting the proper ballots, and testing and adjusting the
28 voting machines for the election. A test vote report shall be produced by each
29 machine. In preparing the machines, the secretary of state shall lock out against use
30 on each machine those vote indicators or devices that are not to be used at the

1 election. In preparing and ~~adjusting~~ testing machines, the secretary of state shall use
2 the mechanics and technicians authorized by R.S. 18:1353.

3 (3) Each candidate or his representative shall be afforded a reasonable
4 opportunity to inspect and review the test vote report of the machines to see that they
5 are in the proper condition for use in the election, which shall not be less than thirty
6 minutes beginning at the time designated by the parish custodian, in conjunction with
7 the secretary of state, to seal the machines.

8 (4) No candidate, representative, or citizen shall interfere with the secretary
9 of state or any employee or technician or assume any of their duties during the
10 preparation and testing of the voting machines. Each candidate or representative
11 shall identify to the secretary of state and parish custodian the candidate whom he
12 is representing. In addition, any citizen of this state may be present to observe the
13 preparation; and testing, ~~and sealing~~ of the machines by the ~~parish custodian~~
14 secretary of state's technicians and shall be afforded an opportunity to inspect and
15 review the test vote report of the machines.

16 (5) After the machines have been prepared and tested by the secretary of
17 ~~state~~ state's technicians and examined by each candidate or representative, citizen,
18 or parish board member who is present, the parish ~~custodian~~ board shall ~~enclose~~
19 confirm the enclosure of the registration books or lists and other paraphernalia and
20 shall forthwith seal each machine with a numbered seal. At that time, the parish
21 custodian, in the presence of the candidates or their representatives, parish board
22 members, and any citizens who are present, shall certify to the numbers of the
23 machines, that all of the public counters are set at zero, and as to the number
24 registered on the protective counter of the machine.

25 * * *

26 §1400.3. Election expenses incurred by clerks of court and registrars of voters;
27 payment by secretary of state; payment by governing authorities

28 * * *

1 D. For the purposes of this Section, "election expenses incurred by registrars
2 of voters" is defined and limited to the following:

3 * * *

4 (4) Expenses of an extraordinary nature incurred by a registrar of voters for
5 an election which have received prior approval of the secretary of state or his
6 designee.

7 * * *

8 E. For the purposes of this Section, "election expenses incurred by clerks of
9 court" is defined and limited to the following:

10 * * *

11 (4) Expenses of an extraordinary nature incurred by a clerk of court for an
12 election which have received prior approval of the secretary of state or his designee.

13 * * *

14 §1402. Proper parties

15 A. The following persons are the proper parties against whom actions
16 objecting to candidacy shall be instituted:

17 (1) The person whose candidacy is objected to.

18 (2) ~~The official, in his official capacity, before whom the person whose~~
19 ~~candidacy is objected to had qualified.~~ The clerk of court, in his official capacity, if
20 the candidate qualified with the clerk of court.

21 (3) The secretary of state, in his official capacity, if the candidate qualified
22 with the secretary of state.

23 * * *

24 §1406. Petition; answer; notification

25 * * *

26 D. The clerk of court shall immediately notify the secretary of state by
27 telephone and by written notice sent by ~~certified~~ electronic mail or facsimile when
28 an action objecting to the calling of a special election, objecting to candidacy,

1 contesting the certification of a recall petition, or contesting an election has been
2 filed.

3 * * *

4 §1461.7. Miscellaneous election offenses; penalties

5 A. No person shall knowingly, willfully, or intentionally:

6 * * *

7 (4) Being a physician, optometrist, physician assistant as defined in R.S.
8 37:1360.22, or nurse practitioner as defined in R.S. 37:913 certify to the disability
9 of a voter under this Title or certify that a person will be hospitalized on election day,
10 knowing such information to be false.

11 * * *

12 §1945. Submission of redistricting plans to the secretary of state; required format

13 A. If a local governing body utilizes a geographic information system to
14 develop its redistricting plan, the local governing body shall submit an electronic
15 shapefile which reflects its redistricting plan to the secretary of state within ten
16 business days of its adoption of the redistricting plan.

17 B. If a local governing body is unable to submit an electronic shapefile, the
18 local governing body shall submit an ASCII, comma delimited block equivalency
19 import file which indicates the census block assignments in accordance with its
20 redistricting plan to the secretary of state within ten business days of its adoption of
21 the redistricting plan.

22 C. No redistricting plan shall be implemented unless the information
23 required in Subsection A or B of this Section is received by the secretary of state
24 prior to 4:30 p.m. four weeks prior to the date the qualifying period opens.

25 D. For the purposes of this Section, "local governing body" shall include
26 each parish governing authority, municipal governing authority, and school board.

27 Section 2. R.S. 18:463(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
28 18:115(F)(2)(e) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

29 §115. Registration by mail

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F.

* * *

(2) The provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall not apply in the case of the following:

* * *

(e) A person who was registered to vote in another parish and previously voted in the other parish.

* * *

§463. Notice of candidacy; campaign finance disclosure; political advertising; penalties

A.(1)(a) A notice of candidacy shall be in writing and shall state the candidate's name, the office he seeks, the address of his domicile, his telephone number, his electronic mail address if available, and the parish, ward, and precinct where he is registered to vote. The candidate shall list on the notice of candidacy the name of the political party if he is registered as being affiliated with a recognized political party, "other" if he is registered as being affiliated with a political party that is not a recognized political party, or "no party" or an abbreviation thereof if he is registered with no political party affiliation. No candidate shall change or add his political party designation, for purposes of printing on the election ballot as required by R.S. 18:551(D), after he has qualified for the election.

* * *

Section 3. R.S. 18:1309(K)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§1309. Early voting; verification

* * *

~~K.(1) Only a certified commissioner may be selected to serve as an early voting commissioner.~~ A person may serve as an early voting commissioner only if he has received a certificate of instruction as provided in R.S. 18:431(A) and has attended a course of instruction for early voting commissioners and received a certificate of instruction from the registrar of voters.

* * *

1 Section 4. R.S. 18:467.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

2 §467.2. Opening of qualifying period; exception

3 Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 18:467(2), the qualifying period for
4 candidates in the 2020 congressional primary election and those in any special
5 primary election to be held at the same time, shall open on the fourth Wednesday in
6 July.

7 Section 5. R.S. 18:467.2 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

8 Section 6(A). Section 1, Section 4, and this Section of this Act shall become
9 effective upon signature of this Act by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon
10 expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided
11 by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If this Act is vetoed by the
12 governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, Section 1, Section 4, and this Section
13 of this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

14 (B) Section 2 of this Act shall become effective on February 1, 2021.

15 (C) Section 3 of this Act shall become effective on January 1, 2022.

16 (D) Section 5 of this Act shall become effective on December 31, 2020.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____