
DIGEST

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HB 281 Original

2025 Regular Session

Wyble

Abstract: Prohibits wearing campaign apparel at a polling place during early voting or on election day.

Present law prohibits a person from doing any of the following within any polling place being used in an election on election day or during early voting, or within a radius of 600 feet of the entrance to any polling place being used in an election on election day or during early voting:

- (1) To solicit in any manner or by any means whatsoever any other person to vote for or against any candidate or proposition being voted on in such election.
- (2) To remain within any such polling place or within a radius of six hundred feet of the entrance of any such polling place, except when exercising the right to vote, after having been directed by an election commissioner, law enforcement officer, registrar, or deputy registrar to leave the premises or area of a polling place.
- (3) To hand out, place, or display campaign cards, pictures, or other campaign literature of any kind or description whatsoever which advocate for or against any candidate, proposition, or political party appearing on the ballot in the election.
- (4) To circulate a petition or seek handwritten signatures to a petition.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law additionally prohibits a person from placing or displaying forms of political advertising which advocate for or against any candidate, proposition, or political party appearing on the ballot in the election. Proposed law retains present law and adds wearing forms of political advertising to the prohibition.

Present law specifies political signs and pictures as forms of political advertising which are prohibited. Proposed law retains present law and adds campaign apparel to the prohibition.

Present law authorizes the duly constituted law enforcement officers of the political subdivision in which an election is being held to enforce the provisions of present law when requested to do so by a registrar, deputy registrar, commissioner-in-charge or commissioner. Authorizes the registrar, deputy registrars, commissioners-in-charge and commissioners to enforce the provisions of present law at the polling places. Authorizes the law enforcement officers, commissioners-in-charge,

commissioners, deputy registrars and registrar to seize, remove, and destroy any political cards, signs, pictures, or literature being used or displayed in violation of any of the provisions of present law.

Present law provides that whoever violates any provision of present law shall be fined not more than \$500 or be imprisoned for not more than six months, or both. Provides that on a second offense or any succeeding offense, the penalty shall be a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

Proposed law retains present law and makes present law applicable to proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 18:1462(A)(4))