

# ACT No. 508

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 614

BY REPRESENTATIVES MORENO, BAGNERIS, BOUIE, GARY CARTER, ROBBY CARTER, STEVE CARTER, JIMMY HARRIS, HAVARD, HILFERTY, HORTON, LYONS, MAGEE, MARCELLE, NORTON, PIERRE, PRICE, SMITH, AND WHITE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1310(A)(2) and to enact R.S. 18:1308(A)(1)(d), relative to  
3 voting absentee by mail; to provide for the electronic transmission of voting  
4 materials to certain voters under certain circumstances; to provide relative to the  
5 procedures and requirements for voting using such materials; and to provide for  
6 related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 18:1310(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
9 18:1308(A)(1)(d) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §1308. Absentee voting by mail

11 A.(1)

12 \* \* \*

13 (d)(i) Upon request, the registrar shall transmit electronically a ballot,  
14 certificate, and waiver of the right to a secret ballot to a voter who is eligible to vote  
15 absentee by mail pursuant to R.S. 18:1303(F) or (I) and who is unable to vote an  
16 absentee by mail ballot without assistance because of a disability.

17 (ii) The waiver of the right to a secret ballot shall contain the following  
18 statement: "My ballot was transmitted electronically to me, and I am voluntarily  
19 waiving my right to a secret ballot." The waiver shall also contain spaces for the  
20 voter's handwritten signature or mark, the date, and the last four digits of the voter's  
21 social security number.

22 (iii) The voter shall mark the ballot and complete the certificate and waiver  
23 as provided in R.S. 18:1310 and return his voted ballot and completed certificate and

1 waiver to the registrar by facsimile or any means authorized by Subsection B of this  
2 Section. The registrar and his staff shall take the steps necessary to keep the voted  
3 ballot as confidential as practicable.

4 \* \* \*

5 §1310. Execution of certificate; marking of ballot; casting vote; assistance

6 A.

7 \* \* \*

8 (2) ~~When a member of the United States Service or a person residing outside~~  
9 ~~the United States who is registered to vote receives the absentee voting materials by~~  
10 ~~electronic transmission, he~~ absentee by mail voting materials are electronically  
11 transmitted to a voter pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter, the voter first shall  
12 mark each ballot according to the instructions on the ballot, either by marking the  
13 ballot electronically and then printing it, or by printing the ballot first and then  
14 marking it by hand. The voter shall then print all remaining documents and fill in  
15 all blanks on the certificate and the waiver of the right to a secret ballot for each  
16 ballot mailing. The voter then shall mark the ballot or ballots according to the  
17 ~~printed instructions on its face.~~ The voter shall then place the voted ballot or ballots,  
18 completed certificate, and waiver of the right to a secret ballot for each ballot mailing  
19 in a separate envelope, seal the envelope, mark "Absentee Ballot Enclosed" on the  
20 envelope, and mail the envelope and its contents to the registrar of voters.

21 \* \* \*

22 Section 2. This Act shall become effective January 1, 2017.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_