

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**

**HB 168**

**2017 Regular Session**

**Carpenter**

VOTING/REGISTRATION: Requires reporting of certain information concerning persons with a felony conviction who are released from the custody or supervision of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Adds requirement that the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections indicate in the supplemental reports whether the individual has been granted or is eligible to be granted a first offender pardon.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Present constitution (Const. Art. I, §10) provides that every citizen of the state, upon reaching 18 years of age, shall have the right to register and vote, except that this right may be suspended while a person is interdicted and judicially declared mentally incompetent or is under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony.

Present law (R.S. 18:102–La. Election Code) prohibits a person who is under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony from registering to vote. Present law (R.S. 18:176) provides for suspension of the registration of a person listed on certain reports required pursuant to present law (R.S. 18:171 and 171.1) and anyone the registrar believes has been convicted of a felony and is under an order of imprisonment. Requires notice and an opportunity to appear before the registrar prior to suspension.

Present law (R.S. 18:171 and 171.1) provides for recordation and reporting of felony convictions in state and federal courts for which there are orders of imprisonment. Requires the secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPSC) to send to the Dept. of State a report, certified as correct over his signature or the signature of his authorized representative, containing the name, date of birth, sex, and address as such information exists in the database of any person who has a felony conviction and who is currently under the custody or supervision of DPSC.

Present law requires the secretary of DPSC to send supplemental reports to the Dept. of State on no less than a quarterly basis. Provides that upon receipt of a supplemental report, the Dept. of State shall confirm that the information therein has been entered into the department's databases and provide for correction, if necessary.

Present law requires the Dept. of State send to the registrar of voters of each parish such information received from DPSC regarding persons with a felony conviction on no less than a quarterly basis.

Proposed law retains present law. Additionally requires the secretary of DPSC to indicate in the supplemental reports each person who has a felony conviction and who has been released from the custody or supervision of DPSC and whether the individual has been granted or is eligible to be granted a first offender pardon.

Effective February 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 18:171(C)(1) and (2))