

ACT No. 133

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 30

BY REPRESENTATIVES BACALA, BOURRIAQUE, HORTON, IVEY, JENKINS, LARVADAIN, MIGUEZ, JAY MORRIS, PUGH, DEVILLIER, COX, STEFANSKI, ABRAHAM, AMEDEE, ANDERS, ARMES, BAGLEY, BAGNERIS, BARRAS, BERTHELOT, BISHOP, BRASS, CHAD BROWN, TERRY BROWN, CARMODY, CARPENTER, ROBBY CARTER, STEVE CARTER, CHANEY, CONNICK, CREWS, DAVIS, DUBUISSON, DUPLESSIS, DWIGHT, EDMONDS, EMERSON, FOIL, GAINES, GISCLAIR, GLOVER, GUINN, JIMMY HARRIS, LANCE HARRIS, HENRY, HILFERTY, HILL, HODGES, HOFFMANN, HOLLIS, HOWARD, HUVAL, JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, MIKE JOHNSON, ROBERT JOHNSON, JONES, JORDAN, LACOMBE, NANCY LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LEBAS, LEOPOLD, LYONS, MAGEE, MCFARLAND, MCMAHEN, MOORE, MOSS, PEARSON, POPE, PYLANT, RICHARD, SCHEXNAYDER, SIMON, SMITH, STAGNI, STOKES, TALBOT, THOMAS, TURNER, WHITE, AND ZERINGUE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:562(A)(2) and (C) and 1309(D)(1), relative to voting; to
3 provide relative to procedures for identifying voters at the polls; to provide for the
4 forms of identification required for voting; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:562(A)(2) and (C) and 1309(D)(1) are hereby amended and
7 reenacted to read as follows:

8 §562. Prerequisites to voting

9 A. Identification of voters.

10 * * *

11 (2)(a) Each applicant shall identify himself, in the presence and view of the
12 bystanders, and present to the commissioners a one of the following:

13 (i) A Louisiana driver's license, a Louisiana special identification card issued
14 pursuant to R.S. 40:1321, or other generally recognized picture identification card
15 that contains the name and signature of the applicant.

16 (ii) A United States military identification card that contains the applicant's
17 name and picture.

1 **(b)** If the applicant does not have a ~~Louisiana driver's license, a Louisiana~~
 2 ~~special identification card, or other generally recognized picture identification card~~
 3 ~~that contains the name and signature of the applicant~~ one of the forms of
 4 identification provided in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, the applicant shall
 5 complete and sign an affidavit, which is supplied by the secretary of state, to that
 6 effect before the commissioners, which affidavit shall include the applicant's date of
 7 birth and mother's maiden name. If the applicant is unable to read or write or is
 8 otherwise unable to complete the affidavit due to disability, the applicant may
 9 receive assistance in completing the affidavit and the commissioner shall make a
 10 notation on the affidavit. The applicant may receive the assistance of any person of
 11 his choice, including a commissioner, except a candidate, commissioner-in-charge,
 12 the applicant's employer or employer's agent, or the applicant's union agent. The
 13 commissioners shall place the affidavit in the envelope marked "Registrar of Voters"
 14 and attach the envelope to the precinct register. However, an applicant who is
 15 allowed to vote without the picture identification required by Subparagraph (a) of
 16 this Paragraph is subject to challenge as provided in R.S. 18:565.

* * *

18 C. Handwritten signature of the applicant. If the applicant is able to sign his
 19 name, he shall sign his handwritten signature in ink in the space for his signature on
 20 the precinct register. When the applicant has submitted to the commissioners picture
 21 identification that contains the signature of the applicant ~~to the commissioners~~, the
 22 applicant's signature shall be compared to his signature on the picture identification.
 23 If the applicant is unable to sign his name, he shall make his mark in ink in the
 24 proper space on the precinct register.

* * *

§1309. Early voting; verification

* * *

28 D.(1)(a) Before any voter is allowed to vote during early voting, the registrar
 29 or his deputy shall establish the voter's identity by requiring him to submit a one of
 30 the following:

1 *(i)* A Louisiana driver's license, a Louisiana special identification card
 2 issued pursuant to R.S. 40:1321, or other generally recognized picture identification
 3 card that contains the name and signature of the voter.

4 *(ii)* A United States military identification card that contains the voter's name
 5 and picture.

6 *(b)* If the voter does not have a ~~Louisiana driver's license, a Louisiana special~~
 7 ~~identification card, or other generally recognized picture identification card that~~
 8 ~~contains the name and signature of the voter~~ one of the forms of identification
 9 provided in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, the voter shall complete and sign,
 10 in the presence of the registrar or his deputy, a voter identification affidavit to that
 11 effect provided by the secretary of state, which affidavit shall include the voter's date
 12 of birth and mother's maiden name. If the voter is unable to read or write or is
 13 otherwise unable to complete the affidavit due to disability, the voter may receive
 14 assistance in completing the affidavit, and the registrar or his deputy shall make a
 15 notation on the affidavit. The voter may receive the assistance of any person of his
 16 choice, including the registrar or his deputy, except a candidate, the voter's employer
 17 or employer's agent, or the voter's union agent. The registrar or his deputy shall
 18 retain the affidavit in the office of the registrar of voters.

19 *(c)* If satisfied that the voter has identified himself as the voter registered in
 20 the state voter registration computer system or named on the precinct register and
 21 that he is qualified to vote, the registrar or his deputy shall initial the precinct register
 22 or early voting list kept by the registrar opposite the voter's signature or mark. The
 23 voter then shall be allowed to vote.

24 *(d)* A voter who votes without the picture identification required by
 25 Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph is subject to challenge as provided in R.S.
 26 18:1315.

* * *

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2020.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____