

SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 397

2020 Regular Session

Bernard

KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

VOTERS/VOTING. Provides relative to counting absentee and early voting ballots.
(gov sig)

SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL

1. Clarify the type of elections to which the limitations on compensation of members of parish boards of election supervisors are applicable.
2. Provides that special absentee ballots cast by member of the United States Service or persons residing outside the U.S. may be counted either by hand or as a true duplicate.
3. Make technical changes.

DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

DIGEST

SB 397 Reengrossed

2020 Regular Session

Bernard

Present law provides that a member of a parish board of election supervisors may receive compensation for not more than six days spent in the performance of his duties in preparing for and supervising each election held in the parish and for not more than seven days for a presidential or regularly scheduled congressional general election.

Proposed law provides for a member of a parish board of election supervisors in a parish where the parish board of election supervisors tabulates and counts absentee by mail and early voting ballots in accordance with proposed law to receive compensation for not more than eight days for a presidential or regularly scheduled congressional general election and for not more than seven days for any other primary or general election.

Present law provides that a parish board of election supervisors is responsible for the counting and tabulation of all absentee by mail and early voting ballots in the parish and may utilize parish board commissioners to assist with counting and tabulation. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that parishes with 1,000 or more absentee by mail ballots returned may conduct the preparation and verification process for the tabulation and counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots the day before the election and conduct the tabulation and counting of those ballots on election day. Provides procedures to determine the validity, security, transportation, and recounting of the ballots. Provides that the secretary of state may provide security or technical assistance.

Proposed law provides that a parish that has less than 1,000 absentee by mail ballots returned shall conduct the tabulation and counting on election day in accordance with present law as well as the preparation and verification of such ballots.

New proposed law provides that in a parish that has 1,000 or more absentee by mail ballots, the parish board must notify the secretary of state in writing no later than five days prior to the election that it will conduct the tabulation and counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots pursuant to present law or proposed law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 18:1313, 1314(B)(1) and (C)(1)(a), and 1315(B); adds R.S. 18:423(J) and 1313.1)

Thomas L. Tyler
Deputy Chief of Staff