

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 59

BY REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU

ELECTIONS: Authorizes the payment of additional compensation to certain election officials for elections held within a certain period following a gubernatorially declared emergency (Item #5)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:426.1, 1309(J), and 1354(C) and to enact R.S. 18:1314(E)(3),  
3 relative to employees of the secretary of state; to provide relative to the  
4 compensation of election commissioners and deputy parish custodians of voting  
5 machines; to provide relative to such compensation after declared emergencies; and  
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 18:426.1, 1309(J), and 1354(C) are hereby amended and reenacted  
9 and R.S. 18:1314(E)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §426.1. Election commissioners; compensation

11 A. Each commissioner who serves at the polling place on election day shall  
12 be paid according to the following:

- 13 (1) A commissioner-in-charge shall receive two hundred fifty dollars.
- 14 (2) A commissioner-in-charge who serves at more than one precinct shall  
15 receive three hundred dollars.
- 16 (3) A commissioner who has received a certificate of instruction, as provided  
17 in R.S. 18:431(A), shall receive one hundred dollars.
- 18 (4) A commissioner who has received a certificate of instruction, as provided  
19 in R.S. 18:431(B), shall receive two hundred dollars.

1 (5) An uncertified commissioner shall receive thirty-five dollars.

2 B. For an election held within one year following the date of the issuance of  
3 any gubernatorial declaration of an emergency, upon application of a parish board  
4 of election supervisors, the secretary of state may approve payment of up to one  
5 hundred dollars per election or each day of assistance, if applicable, as compensation  
6 to each commissioner in addition to compensation provided for in Subsection A of  
7 this Section.

8 \* \* \*

9 §1309. Early voting; verification

10 \* \* \*

11 J. Upon approval of the secretary of state, a registrar of voters may utilize  
12 commissioners selected and trained by the registrar of voters to assist the registrar  
13 during the early voting period in the conduct of early voting by his office. A  
14 registrar of voters shall, in seeking the approval of the secretary of state, indicate to  
15 the secretary the number of commissioners that is required for such assistance. A  
16 commissioner who assists the registrar in the conduct of early voting shall take an  
17 oath of office as a deputy registrar for the early voting period and shall complete an  
18 affidavit prepared by the secretary of state that contains the name, address, and last  
19 four digits of the social security number of the early voting commissioner and an  
20 acknowledgment that the law prohibits the disclosure of confidential voter  
21 information listed in the precinct register or early voting list kept by the registrar.  
22 The affidavit shall be retained in the office of the registrar of voters. A  
23 commissioner who assists the registrar in the conduct of early voting shall be paid  
24 in accordance with R.S. ~~18:426.1(3)~~ 18:426.1(A)(3) and B, if applicable, for each  
25 day of such assistance.

26 \* \* \*

27 §1314. Parish board commissioners

28 \* \* \*

1           E. Compensation. A parish board commissioner who serves on election day  
2 or during the counting and tabulating of provisional ballots shall receive fifty dollars  
3 or one hundred dollars for each day he serves as provided below:

4   \*       \*       \*

5           (3) For an election held within one year following the date of the issuance  
6 of any gubernatorial declaration of an emergency, upon application of the parish  
7 board of election supervisors, the secretary of state may approve the payment of up  
8 to one hundred dollars per election or each day of assistance, if applicable, as  
9 compensation to each commissioner in addition to compensation otherwise provided  
10 for in this Subsection.

11   \*       \*       \*

12       §1354. Parish custodian of voting machines; powers and duties; appointment of  
13           deputy custodians

14   \*       \*       \*

15           C.(1) The parish custodian of voting machines may employ persons on a  
16 temporary basis, as needed, to assist him in the performance of his duties. He may  
17 appoint a deputy parish custodian of voting machines for any polling place he deems  
18 necessary. He may not appoint as deputy parish custodian of voting machines any  
19 person who has been convicted of a felony for which he has not been pardoned. The  
20 parish custodian shall not appoint a person who is a candidate or a member of a  
21 candidate's immediate family to serve in any polling location where the candidate's  
22 name appears on the ballot. The compensation of a deputy parish custodian shall be  
23 one hundred dollars for each election at which he serves. The deputy parish  
24 custodian shall deliver the key envelope and the supplemental list to the  
25 commissioner-in-charge at least one-half hour before the fixed time for the opening  
26 of the polls.

27           (2) For an election held within one year following the date of the issuance  
28 of any gubernatorial declaration of an emergency, upon application of the parish  
29 custodian of voting machines, the secretary of state may approve the payment of up

1       to one hundred dollars per election as compensation to each deputy parish custodian  
2       in addition to compensation otherwise provided for in this Subsection.

3   \*       \*       \*

4       Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
5 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
6 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
7 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
8 effective on the day following such approval.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 59 Engrossed                               2020 Second Extraordinary Session                               Beaulieu

**Abstract:** Authorizes additional compensation to certain election officials for elections held within one year following a gubernatorially declared emergency.

Present law provides for the pay structure for certain election commissioners and parish custodians of voting machines.

Proposed law authorizes the secretary of state to approve payment of up to \$100 per election or each day of assistance as additional compensation to commissioners and custodians during an election held within one year following the date of the issuance of any gubernatorial declaration of an emergency.

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

(Amends R.S. 18:426.1, 1309(J), and 1354(C); Adds R.S. 18:1314(E)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Add provision to proposed law authorizing additional pay per day of assistance if applicable.