

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 277 (HB 449)

2023 Regular Session

Willard

Existing law (R.S. 18:431) requires the clerk of court to conduct a general course of instruction for election commissioners and requires the clerk to provide specific instruction during the course pursuant to minimum standards issued by the secretary of state.

New law further requires the clerk to provide instruction on the duty to comply with provisions of law pertaining to the rights of voters with disabilities, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Existing law (R.S. 18:431.1) requires the secretary of state to prepare the examination to be used for the course of instruction for commissioners and commissioners-in-charge and requires that the examination include questions relating to certain matters.

New law further requires the secretary to include in the examination questions relating to procedures for assisting voters with disabilities and requirements to comply with provisions of law pertaining to the rights of voters with disabilities, including the ADA.

New law (R.S. 18:523) requires the secretary of state to appoint an ADA compliance officer to serve at the pleasure of the secretary. Provides that the secretary shall fix the salary of the compliance officer and assigns responsibilities and duties to the officer.

New law (R.S. 18:532.1) creates the Voting Accessibility Advisory Group within the Dept. of State. Provides that the group shall be comprised of at least seven members selected by the secretary of state, a majority of which shall be disabled and represent a diversity of accessibility needs. Further provides that the group shall consult on voting accessibility matters.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 9, 2023).

(Amends R.S. 18:431(A)(1)(b) and 431.1(C)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 18:431.1(C)(7), 523, and 523.1 and R.S. 36:744(C)(5))