

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 743

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARPENTER

VOTERS/VOTING: Provides for absentee voting by mail by qualified incarcerated voters

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 18:115(F)(2)(f), relative to absentee voting by mail; to provide for voting by
3 qualified incarcerated voters; to provide for absentee voting following registration
4 by mail; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:115(F)(2)(f) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §115. Registration by mail

8 * * *

9 F.

10 * * *

11 (2) The provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall not apply in the
12 case of the following:

13 * * *

14 (f) A person who is incarcerated in an institution inside or outside the parish
15 in which he is qualified to vote and who requests to vote absentee by mail pursuant
16 to R.S. 18:1303(G).

17 * * *

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)]

HB 743 Original

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Carpenter

Abstract: Provides that an eligible incarcerated voter may vote absentee by mail the first time after applying to vote by mail.

Present law (R.S. 18:1303(G)) authorizes a person who is incarcerated in an institution inside or outside the parish in which he is qualified to vote but who is not under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony to vote absentee by mail upon certification to the appropriate registrar by the sheriff of the parish where the person is incarcerated that he is not a convicted felon.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 18:115) requires a registered voter who has registered by mail and has not previously voted in the parish to vote in person either at a location where early voting is conducted or at the precinct in which he is registered to vote.

Proposed law retains present law with the exception that an incarcerated voter is not required to vote in person.

(Adds R.S. 18:115(F)(2)(f))