

SENATE BILL NO. 101

BY SENATOR MIGUEZ

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 18:2(16) and 405, relative to elections; to define ranked-choice voting and
3 instant runoff voting; to prohibit for certain elections; to provide for an effective
4 date; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:2(16) and 405 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §2. Definitions

8 As used in this Code, the following words and terms shall have the meanings
9 hereinafter ascribed to each, unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

10 * * *

11 **(16) "Ranked-choice voting" and "instant runoff voting" mean a method**
12 **of nominating or electing one or more candidates to an office as follows:**

13 **(a) Voters rank candidates on the ballot in order of preference.**

14 **(b) Tabulation proceeds in rounds such that in each round, one or more**
15 **candidates are nominated or elected, or a last-place candidate is defeated.**

16 **(c) Votes are transferred from nominated, elected, or defeated candidates**
17 **to the voter's next-ranked candidate or candidates in order of preference.**

18 **(d) Tabulation ends when a candidate receives the majority of the votes**
19 **cast or when the number of candidates nominated or elected equals the number**
20 **of offices to be filled, as applicable.**

21 * * *

22 **§405. Ranked-choice voting and instant runoff voting prohibited; exception**

23 **A. A ranked-choice voting or instant runoff voting method shall not be**
24 **used in determining the election or nomination of any candidate to any local,**
25 **state, or federal elective office in this state.**

26 **B. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection A of this Section, all**
27 **votes cast by military and overseas voters by special absentee by mail ballots in**

1 **accordance with the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act and**
2 **this Title shall be counted in accordance with the provisions of this Title.**

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

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____