

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 583 (SB 261)

2024 Regular Session

Hodges

Prior law provided that a candidate may designate watchers to serve at every precinct on election day where the office he seeks is voted on in an election. Further provides for the procedure of designating the watchers. Authorizes a candidate to appoint a super watcher who shall be admitted to every precinct in the parish where the candidate is on the ballot.

New law retains prior law and provides that the parish executive committee of each recognized political party having at least 25% of the registered voters in the state may designate super watchers in each parish in which a candidate affiliated with the party is on the ballot. Further provides for the number of super watchers that may be designated by a recognized political party based on the number of registered voters in the parish.

Prior law provided for the conduct of early voting, voting location designations, voter identification requirements, qualifications of early voting commissioners, and notice requirements.

New law retains prior law and adds a provision allowing the parish executive committee of a political party having at least 25% of the registered voters in the state to have an early voting watcher at each early voting location, as space permits, at which a candidate affiliated with such political party is on the ballot. Further provides for the qualifications, powers, and duties of the watcher and the procedure for nominating the watcher.

New law provides that the chairman of the state central committee of the political party may appoint watchers and super watchers in parishes that do not have a parish executive committee.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 18:435(A)(4) and (B)(2); adds R.S. 18:435(A)(5) and (B)(1)(c) and 1309(N))