RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 521 (SB 384)

2024 Regular Session

Fields

Existing law (R.S. 18:1315) provided that during the preparation and verification process for counting absentee by mail and early voting ballots, the ballots may be challenged for cause. Further provides that if a challenge for cause is sustained by at least a majority of the members of the parish board of election supervisors, the vote shall not be counted and the board shall write "rejected" and the cause therefore across the ballot envelope or early voting confirmation sheet, the board shall notify the voter within four business days.

<u>New law</u> retains <u>existing law</u> and requires the registrar to record the reason for the rejection in the state voter registration system.

Existing law (R.S. 18:1317) provides that the secretary of state shall promulgate and adopt rules as necessary to effectuate uniform and standardized processes for the review and curing or rejection of deficient absentee by mail ballots by the parish board of election of supervisors.

<u>New law</u> retains <u>existing law</u> and further requires the secretary to maintain records of all ballots rejected pursuant to <u>existing law</u> and include information detailing the total number of ballots rejected per parish and the reasons for their rejection in the post-election statistical data published to the secretary's website.

Effective July 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 18:1315(C)(3)(a) and 1317)