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## DIGEST

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HB 482 Original

2025 Regular Session

Thomas

**Abstract:** Provides for review by the clerk of court and registrar of voters of local redistricting and reapportionment plans adopted by and precincts established and changed by a local governing authority.

Present law provides for the parish governing authority to establish precincts, define the territorial limits for which each precinct is established, prescribe their boundaries, and designate the precincts.

Proposed law retains present law and requires that prior to the adoption of an ordinance to establish the boundaries of precincts, the parish governing authority shall submit the proposed precincts and boundaries to the clerk of court and registrar of voters to confirm the ability to conduct an election utilizing the proposed boundaries.

Present law authorizes the parish governing authority to change established precincts by either merging one or more precincts or dividing a precinct into two or more precincts.

Proposed law retains present law and requires that when the proposed precinct change involves dividing a precinct, prior to the adoption of the ordinance, the parish governing authority shall submit proposed changes to the clerk of court and registrar of voters to confirm the ability to conduct an election utilizing the proposed boundaries.

Proposed law provides that prior to the adoption of any local redistricting or reapportionment plan, a local governing body shall submit the proposed plan to the parish registrar of voters and clerk of court for review. If the parish governing body utilizes a demographer to produce the proposed plan, the demographer shall be available to the registrar of voters and clerk of court to conduct their review. If the local governing body utilizes a geographic information system to develop its redistricting plan, it shall submit the proposed plan to the registrar of voters and clerk of court electronically in a shapefile or an ASCII, comma delimited block equivalency import file which indicates the census block assignments in accordance with its redistricting plan.

Proposed law provides that the registrar of voters shall review and confirm that each district of the proposed plan is composed of contiguous geography and that the proposed plan assigns all of the geography of the affected area without omission or duplication. If the proposed plan utilizes precincts, the registrar shall confirm the proposed plan shall utilizes the most current precincts established by the parish governing authority.

Proposed law provides that the registrar of voters and clerk of court shall review and confirm the

ability to conduct an election utilizing the proposed plan.

(Amends R.S. 18:532.1(C)(4); Adds R.S. 18:532(F), 532.1(C)(5), and 1922.2)