

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 547

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS

ELECTION OFFENSES: Provides for election offenses

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 18:1461.2(A)(11), relative to election offenses; to provide that no person shall
3 knowingly, willfully, or intentionally photograph, record, or otherwise reproduce
4 voter registration information in precinct registers; to provide for penalties; and to
5 provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 18:1461.2(A)(11) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1461.2. Election offenses affecting registration and election fraud or forgery;
9 penalties

10 A. No person shall knowingly, willfully, or intentionally:

11 * * *

12 (11) Photograph, record, or otherwise reproduce voter registration
13 information in precinct registers, except while performing his duties as a clerk of
14 court or an employee of a clerk, an election day or early voting commissioner, a
15 registrar of voters or an employee of a registrar, or the secretary of state or an
16 employee of the secretary of state.

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 547 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Thomas

Abstract: Prohibits a person from photographing, recording, or otherwise reproducing voter registration information in precinct registers.

Present law (R.S. 18:1461.2) provides for election offenses affecting registration and election fraud or forgery and further provides for penalties. Provides that no person shall knowingly, willfully, or intentionally:

- (1) Vote or attempt to vote more than once at an election.
- (2) Vote or attempt to vote, knowing that he is not qualified, or influence or attempt to influence another to vote, knowing such voter to be unqualified or the vote to be fraudulent.
- (3) Register, vote, or attempt to register or vote in the name of another or in an assumed or fictitious name, or in any manner other than as provided in present law.
- (4) Forge the name of another or use a fictitious name on an affidavit or document required under present law.
- (5) Procure or submit voter registration applications that are known by the person to be materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent.
- (6) Forge, alter, add to, deface, take, destroy, or remove from proper custodial care any book, card, record, voter registration application, election return, nomination papers, withdrawals of candidacy, election supplies, election paraphernalia, or any affidavit or other document required or provided for under the provisions of present law, unless required to be removed by a court of competent jurisdiction for inspection and photostatic copying for the court record.
- (7) Have in his possession an official ballot in violation of any provision of present law.
- (8) Have in his possession the registration certificate of another with intent to violate any provision of present law.
- (9) For purposes other than fulfilling the person's duties relative to registration of voters as provided by law, copy or reproduce a voter registration application that has been submitted by an applicant.
- (10) Fill out information on another person's voter registration application, except when providing assistance to an applicant in the manner authorized by present law.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that no person shall knowingly, willfully, or intentionally photograph, record, or otherwise reproduce voter registration information in precinct registers.

Proposed law provides proposed law shall not apply to a person who is performing his duties as a clerk of court or an employee of a clerk, an election day or early voting commissioner, a registrar of voters or an employee of a registrar, or the sec. of state or an employee of the secretary of state.

Present law provides that whoever violates present law shall be fined not more than \$2000 or be imprisoned, with or without hard labor for not more than two years, or both, for the first offense and not more than \$5000 or imprisonment at hard labor for not more than five years, or both, for subsequent offenses.

Proposed law retains present law and applies present law penalties to proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 18:1461.2(A)(11))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Provides proposed law shall not apply to a person who is performing his duties as a clerk of court or an employee of a clerk, an election day or early voting commissioner, a registrar of voters or an employee of a registrar, or the secretary of state or an employee of the secretary of state.