

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 473

BY SENATOR CARTER

VOTERS/VOTING. Provides for requested time-off to vote. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 18:1462.2, relative to voting; relative to prohibition of voting by an employer;  
3 relative to an exception; relative to criminal penalties; and to provide for related  
4 matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:1462.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 **§1462.2 Unlawfully prohibiting employee from voting**

8 **A. Except as provided in Subsection B of this Section, every employer**  
9 **shall allow each employee time off, without any reduction in compensation,**  
10 **during the regular work day to vote in person or by absentee ballot in any**  
11 **election.**

12 **B. If the polls are open on election day at least two hours after the**  
13 **employee's regular work day, the employer is not required to allow the**  
14 **employee time off during the election as provided in Subsection A of this**  
15 **Section.**

16 **C. An employer who fails or refuses to provide an employee the**  
17 **opportunity to vote as provided in Subsection A of this Section, the employer**

