
DIGEST

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HB 1131 Original

2026 Regular Session

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Abstract: Provides that a registered voter shall not be moved to the inactive list of voters until 30 days after an address confirmation notice is sent to the voter; eliminates the annual canvass of voters conducted by the Dept. of State; requires that voter list maintenance be conducted in a uniform, nondiscriminatory manner; requires the secretary of state to publish quarterly reports of voter registration totals; limits the secretary's ability to transfer voter registration data to a federal agency; requires the secretary to establish a statewide voter status notification system; and establishes the La. Voter Data Transparency Task Force.

Present law (R.S. 18:193) provides that when the registrar has reason to believe that a registrant no longer is qualified to be registered, or that a registrant has changed his residence, the registrar shall immediately notify the registrant by sending the address confirmation notice to the registrant and place the voter on the inactive list of voters.

Proposed law repeals the requirement that the voter be placed on the inactive list of voters and instead provides that a registrant shall be placed on the inactive list of voters if he fails to respond to the address confirmation notice within 30 days from the date the address confirmation notice was sent to the registrant.

Present law (R.S. 18:195) provides that if a registrant whose registration is challenged for any lawful cause is a member of the U.S. Service or is a person who is temporarily residing outside of the territorial limits of the U.S., the registrar shall mail the registrant an address confirmation notice and registrant's name shall be placed on the inactive list of voters upon mailing of such notice.

Proposed law removes the requirement that the registrant's name be placed on the inactive list of voters upon mailing of the notice and instead provides that the registrant shall be placed on the inactive list of voters if he fails to respond to the address confirmation notice within 30 days from the date the address confirmation notice was sent to the registrant.

Present law (R.S. 18:196) provides that the inactive list of voters shall consist of registrants who have been mailed an address confirmation notice.

Proposed law instead provides that the inactive list of voters shall consist of registrants who have been mailed an address confirmation notice and failed to respond to the notice within 30 days from the date the address confirmation notice was sent to the registrant.

Present law (R.S. 18:192(B)) provides for the Dept. of State to conduct an annual canvass using

information available in the state voter registration computer system to identify and send address confirmation notice and transfer to the inactive list of voters registrants whose name did not appear with a corrected address provided by the U.S. Postal Service and who failed to engage in any of the following activities in the prior 10 years: vote in an election; make an application for voter registration; request an absentee ballot; validly sign a petition submitted to the registrar of voters for certification pursuant to law; change a name, address, or party affiliation or nonaffiliation; make any other change in registration; or participate in the nursing home program.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law (R.S. 18:202) provides that voter list maintenance, including the annual canvass and the challenge and cancellation of voter registration, shall be conducted in a uniform, nondiscriminatory manner consistent with state and federal law. Provides that no registrant's registration shall be cancelled and no registrant shall be placed on the inactive list of voters solely for failure to vote in any election or for any period of inactivity.

Proposed law provides that no registrant shall be identified for cancellation and no registrant shall be placed on the inactive list of voters based upon political party affiliation, change in party affiliation, or nonaffiliation. Provides that criteria for voter list maintenance shall be applied equally to all recognized political parties and affiliated voters.

Proposed law provides that no systematic voter registration removal program shall be conducted within 90 days of a fall election.

Proposed law requires the legislative auditor to conduct annual compliance audits of voter list maintenance procedures and report his findings to the legislature.

Proposed law (R.S. 18:203) requires the secretary of state to publish quarterly reports on his official website in a searchable format including the following information:

- (1) Total number of registered voters.
- (2) Total number voters on the inactive list of voters.
- (3) Total number of voters whose registration was cancelled during the reporting period.
- (4) Total number of voters whose registration was cancelled during the reporting period, categorized by parish, reason for cancellation, party affiliation, including unaffiliated registrants, gender, and race.

Proposed law (R.S. 18:32) prohibits the secretary of state from transmitting sensitive voter data to any federal agency unless required by federal law or court order or provided for in a written intergovernmental agreement posted on the secretary of state's website for not less than 30 days prior to transmission.

Proposed law provides that at least 30 days prior to the transmission of sensitive voter data, the secretary of state shall notify each affected voter by mail, e-mail, SMS message, and telephone notification informing the voter of the name of the receiving agency, the purpose of the data transmission, the categories of data to be transmitted, and information on how the voter may seek clarification or contest the transmission if permitted by law.

Proposed law provides that if immediate transmission is required by court order or federal directive, notice shall be provided within thirty days after transmission unless prohibited by the court order or federal directive.

Proposed law defines "sensitive voter data" as personally identifiable information contained within the state voter registration computer system that is not publicly available under law, including but not limited to full or partial social security numbers, driver's license numbers, dates of birth, residential addresses where protected by law, contact information, and identifiable voting history.

Proposed law (R.S. 18:33) requires the secretary of state to establish and maintain a statewide voter status notification system to provide automated notifications by mail, e-mail, SMS message, and telephone notification to a registered voter of address confirmation requirements, placement of the voter on the inactive list of voters, risk of cancellation of his voter registration, and cancellation of his voter registration.

Proposed law provides the initial notice shall be issued within five business days of any of the events requiring notice, that a second notice shall be issued within 30 days of any of the events requiring notice, and that a third notice shall be issued not less than 60 days prior to cancellation of the voter's registration.

Proposed law provides that a voter's registration shall not be cancelled unless at least 90 days have elapsed from the date the initial notice was issued.

Proposed law requires the secretary of state to provide to voters simple instructions to update or verify registration online, by mail, or in person.

Proposed law (R.S. 18:34) establishes the La. Voter Data Transparency Task Force within the Dept. of State.

Proposed law provides for task force membership. Requires the task force to meet quarterly to review and discuss the quarterly voter maintenance reports published pursuant to proposed law; registration cancellation rates across gender, race, and party affiliation; and federal data-sharing agreements.

Proposed law requires the task force to submit an annual report including its findings and recommendations to the house and senate committees on governmental affairs no later than Feb. 1st of each year.

Proposed law provides for quorum of the task force, member compensation, and staff support.

(Amends R.S. 18:193(A), 195(A), and 196(A)(1); Adds R.S. 18:32, 33, 34, 202, and 203 and R.S. 24:513(D)(9); Repeals R.S. 18:192(B))