The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tim Prather.

DIGEST

Present law provides that state mail voter registration application forms received by a registrar of voters from voter registration agencies (public assistance agencies, disability services, recruitment offices, etc.) will be processed in the following manner:

(1)   Upon receipt of the completed registration form, the registrar will, if the information establishes that such mail voter registration applicant meets the requirements for registration, register the applicant and mail notice of registration to the applicant's residence, as provided on the application. Any completed voter registration application transmitted to and received by a registrar by a designated voter registration agency shall be considered an update to any existing registration for that person. However, if a registrar accepts any application for registration, change of name, or change of address that has been received by a designated voter registration agency while the registration records are closed for a particular election as required by present law, none of the changes will be effective until at least the day after the particular election has been held. In the case of a change of address, the change will be effective in accordance with present law.

(2)   If the information contained on the application form is insufficient to register the applicant, the registrar of voters will mail a notice to the applicant at the address provided on the application form informing the applicant that he has 10 days from the date on which the notice was mailed to provide the necessary information. If the applicant fails to provide the necessary information within that time, the applicant will not be registered and the registrar will so advise the applicant.

Proposed law changes present law and provides that state mail voter registration application forms received by a registrar of voters from voter registration agencies will now be processed as ordinary mail voter registration application forms and require the registrar of voters to determine the eligibility of such an applicant in the following manner:

(1)   By mailing a verification mailing to the applicant at the address provided on the application form. The mailing will instruct the postmaster to deliver only as addressed or return to sender, with return postage guaranteed. If such mailing is not returned to the registrar within 10 days from the date of mailing, the applicant will be added to the official list of voters and the registrar of voters will send a notice of registration to the applicant. If the verification mailing is returned to the registrar by the U.S. Postal Service, the registrar will not add the applicant's name to the official list of voters and will attempt to notify the applicant of such action.

(2)   If an applicant fails to provide all of the required information on the application for voter

registration, the registrar will notify the applicant in writing of the missing information and inform him that he has 10 days from the date on which the notice was mailed to provide the information. This written notification will be considered the verification mailing as required in <u>present law</u>. If the applicant provides the information and the registrar determines he is eligible to register, the applicant will be added to the official list of voters and the registrar will send a notice of registration to the applicant. In the event the applicant does not respond to the request for the missing information within ten days, the application will be rejected and the registrar will advise the applicant in writing. If the registrar's request for the missing information is returned by the U.S. Postal Service, the applicant's name will not be added to the official list of voters and the registrar will attempt to notify the applicant of such action.

Effective August 1, 2013

(Amends R.S. 18:116(E); repeals R.S. 18:115(A)(3))