

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 498

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARNOLD

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS: Provides relative to the tabulation and counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1313(B), relative to elections; to provide relative to the
3 tabulation and counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots; to provide
4 relative to the place where such ballots are counted; to repeal provisions for certain
5 procedures relative to the tabulation and counting of such ballots; and to provide for
6 related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 18:1313(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §1313. Tabulation and counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots

10 * * *

11 B.(1) Absentee by mail and early voting ballots shall be counted at the office
12 of the registrar of voters or at a public facility within the parish designated by the
13 ~~registrar of voters~~ parish board of election supervisors at a time fixed by the parish
14 board of election supervisors, which time shall be on election day no later than 8:00
15 p.m.

16 ~~(2) Prior to the counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots on~~
17 ~~election day, any person authorized by the secretary of state may assist the registrar~~
18 ~~of voters in the challenge removal process on the early voting machines, in the~~
19 ~~reading of the early voting machine results cartridges on the secretary of state's~~
20 ~~equipment, and in producing the early voting machine results report. All early~~

1 ~~voting machine results reports shall be placed in the special absentee by mail and~~
2 ~~early voting envelope or container.~~

3 * * *

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)]

Arnold

HB No. 498

Abstract: Provides that absentee by mail and early voting ballots are counted at the office of the registrar of voters or at a public facility in the parish designated by the parish board of election supervisors and repeals provisions for certain procedures relative to tabulation and counting of such ballots.

Present law (R.S. 18:1313) provides that absentee by mail and early voting ballots shall be counted at a public facility within the parish designated by the registrar of voters at a time fixed by the parish board of election supervisors, which time shall be on election day no later than 8:00 p.m.

Proposed law provides that absentee by mail and early voting ballots shall be counted at the office of the registrar of voters or at a public facility within the parish designated by the parish board of election supervisors. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides that prior to the counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots on election day, any person authorized by the secretary of state may assist the registrar of voters in the challenge removal process on the early voting machines, in the reading of the early voting machine results cartridges on the secretary of state's equipment, and in producing the early voting machine results report. Provides that all early voting machine results reports shall be placed in the special absentee by mail and early voting envelope or container. Proposed law repeals present law.

(Amends R.S. 18:1313(B))