

Existing law (R.S. 18:602) provides relative to the filling of a vacancy in the office of member of a parish or municipal governing authority or a combination thereof, mayor, or any other local or municipal office filled by election wholly within the boundaries of a local governmental subdivision, except the following offices: state legislator, marshal of a city or municipal court, member of a city or parish school board, district attorney, clerk of district court, coroner, sheriff, or tax assessor. Provides that when a vacancy occurs, the governing authority of the applicable local governmental subdivision shall within 20 days appoint a person who meets the qualifications of the office to fill the vacancy. Requires a special election to be called to fill the vacancy unless the vacancy occurs within a specified length of time from the regularly scheduled primary election for the office.

Prior law required a special election unless the vacancy occurred within one year of the primary election. New law requires a special election unless the vacancy occurs within 18 months of the primary election.

Prior law (R.S. 13:2583) provided that when a vacancy occurred in the office of constable or marshal and the unexpired term of the office was one year or less, the chief deputy served for the remainder of the unexpired term. Provided that if there was no chief deputy, the appropriate governing authority was required to appoint a person to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. Provided that if the unexpired term exceeded one year, the chief deputy or the appointed person served until the successor was elected and took office. New law repeals prior law.

Prior law (R.S. 42:373) required that a vacancy in an elective office of the state of La. of any parish, district, or subdivision of the state was to be filled by election if the unexpired term was for a longer period than one year. Required the election to fill the vacancy to be ordered by the proper legal authority within the least possible delay under the general election laws of the state. New law repeals prior law.

Effective upon signature of governor (May 22, 2014).

(Amends R.S. 18:602(E)(1), (2)(a), and (4); Repeals R.S. 13:2583(F) and R.S. 42:373)