

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 483

BY REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOHNSON

ELECTION OFFENSES: Provides relative to penalties for certain election offenses

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 18:1473, relative to election offenses; to provide relative to the criminal  
3 penalties for certain election offenses; to provide for restitution for election expenses  
4 under certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:1473 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §1473. Restitution for election expenses

8 In addition to the penalties provided elsewhere in this Chapter, a person  
9 convicted pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter may be ordered to make full or  
10 partial restitution to the state, a local or municipal entity, or both, for election  
11 expenses incurred in conducting a new election ordered as a result of the offense.  
12 If a person ordered to make restitution is found to be indigent and therefore unable  
13 to make restitution at the time of conviction, the court shall order a periodic payment  
14 plan consistent with the person's ability to pay.

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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)]

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HB 483 Original

2016 Regular Session

Mike Johnson

**Abstract:** Allows for restitution of certain election expenses by persons convicted of election offenses.

Present law (Ch. 10 of Title 18) provides for election offenses, including bribery; coercion; offenses affecting registration; election fraud and forgery; offenses affecting election officials and watchers; offenses involving threats and intimidation of voters, election officials, and candidates; and tampering with election equipment. Provides penalties for violations of present law.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that in addition to the penalties provided in present law, a person convicted pursuant to the provisions of present law may be ordered to make full or partial restitution to the state, a local or municipal entity, or both, for election expenses incurred in conducting a new election ordered as a result of the offense. Provides that if a person ordered to make restitution is found to be indigent and therefore unable to make restitution at the time of conviction, the court shall order a periodic payment plan consistent with the person's ability to pay.

(Adds R.S. 18:1473)