2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 614

BY REPRESENTATIVES MORENO, BAGNERIS, BOUIE, GARY CARTER, ROBBY CARTER, STEVE CARTER, JIMMY HARRIS, HAVARD, HILFERTY, HORTON, LYONS, MAGEE, MARCELLE, NORTON, PIERRE, PRICE, SMITH, AND WHITE

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1310(A)(2) and to enact R.S. 18:1308(A)(1)(d), relative to
3	voting absentee by mail; to provide for the electronic transmission of voting
4	materials to certain voters under certain circumstances; to provide relative to the
5	procedures and requirements for voting using such materials; and to provide for
6	related matters.
7	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
8	Section 1. R.S. 18:1310(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
9	18:1308(A)(1)(d) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
10	§1308. Absentee voting by mail
11	A.(1)
12	* * *
13	(d)(i) Upon request, the registrar shall transmit electronically a ballot,
14	certificate, and waiver of the right to a secret ballot to a voter who is eligible to vote
15	absentee by mail pursuant to R.S. 18:1303(F) or (I) and who is unable to vote an
16	absentee by mail ballot without assistance because of a disability.
17	(ii) The waiver of the right to a secret ballot shall contain the following
18	statement: "My ballot was transmitted electronically to me, and I am voluntarily
19	waiving my right to a secret ballot." The waiver shall also contain spaces for the
20	voter's handwritten signature or mark, the date, and the last four digits of the voter's
21	social security number.
22	(iii) The voter shall mark the ballot and complete the certificate and waiver
23	as provided in R.S. 18:1310 and return his voted ballot and completed certificate and

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1	waiver to the registrar by facsimile or any means authorized by Subsection B of this
2	Section. The registrar and his staff shall take the steps necessary to keep the voted
3	ballot as confidential as practicable.
4	* * *
5	§1310. Execution of certificate; marking of ballot; casting vote; assistance
6	А.
7	* * *
8	(2) When a member of the United States Service or a person residing outside
9	the United States who is registered to vote receives the absentee voting materials by
10	electronic transmission, he absentee by mail voting materials are electronically
11	transmitted to a voter pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter, the voter first shall
12	
	mark each ballot according to the instructions on the ballot, either by marking the
13	ballot electronically and then printing it, or by printing the ballot first and then
14	marking it by hand. The voter shall then print all remaining documents and fill in
15	all blanks on the certificate and the waiver of the right to a secret ballot for each
16	ballot mailing. The voter then shall mark the ballot or ballots according to the
17	printed instructions on its face. The voter shall then place the voted ballot or ballots,
18	completed certificate, and waiver of the right to a secret ballot for each ballot mailing
19	in a separate envelope, seal the envelope, mark "Absentee Ballot Enclosed" on the
20	envelope, and mail the envelope and its contents to the registrar of voters.
21	* * *
22	Section 2. This Act shall become effective January 1, 2017.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.