

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 168

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARPENTER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

VOTING/REGISTRATION: Requires reporting of certain information concerning persons with a felony conviction who are released from the custody or supervision of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:171(C)(1) and (2), relative to reports to election officials  
3 concerning persons with felony convictions; to provide relative to the duties of  
4 registrars of voters and officials in the Department of State and the Department of  
5 Public Safety and Corrections relative to such reports; to provide for the information  
6 required to be reported; provides deadlines for such reports; and to provide for  
7 related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 18:171(C)(1) and (2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as  
10 follows:

11 §171. Report of convictions of felony

12 \* \* \*

13 C.(1) ~~By January 1, 1992, the~~ The secretary of the Department of Public  
14 Safety and Corrections shall send to the Department of State a report, certified as  
15 correct over his signature or the signature of his authorized representative, containing  
16 the name, date of birth, sex, and address as such information exists in the database  
17 of any person who has a felony conviction and who is currently under the custody  
18 or supervision of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

1                   (2) ~~Beginning February 1992, the~~ The secretary of the Department of Public  
2                   Safety and Corrections shall send to the Department of State a supplemental ~~report~~  
3                   reports, certified as correct over his signature or the signature of his authorized  
4                   representative, containing the name, date of birth, sex, and address as such  
5                   information exists in the database of any person who has a felony conviction, who  
6                   is currently under the custody or supervision of the Department of Public Safety and  
7                   Corrections, and whose name was not on the report sent ~~by January 1, 1992,~~ pursuant  
8                   to Paragraph (1) of this Subsection or on any subsequent supplemental report. The  
9                   secretary shall also indicate in the supplemental reports each person who has a felony  
10                  conviction who has been released from the custody or supervision of the Department  
11                  of Public Safety and Corrections. Such supplemental ~~report~~ reports shall be sent to  
12                  the Department of State on no less than a quarterly basis. Upon receipt of any  
13                  supplemental report, the Department of State shall confirm that the information  
14                  therein has been entered into the department's databases and provide for correction,  
15                  if necessary.

\* \* \*

17                  Section 2. This Act shall become effective January 1, 2018.

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)]

HB 168 Original

2017 Regular Session

Carpenter

**Abstract:** Adds information concerning each person who has a felony conviction and who has been released from the custody or supervision of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to information required to be reported periodically by the department to the Dept. of State.

Present constitution (Const. Art. I, §10) provides that every citizen of the state, upon reaching 18 years of age, shall have the right to register and vote, except that this right may be suspended while a person is interdicted and judicially declared mentally incompetent or is under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony.

Present law (R.S. 18:102–La. Election Code) prohibits a person who is under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony from registering to vote. Present law (R.S. 18:176) provides for suspension of the registration of a person listed on certain reports required pursuant to present law (R.S. 18:171 and 171.1) and anyone the registrar believes has been

convicted of a felony and is under an order of imprisonment. Requires notice and an opportunity to appear before the registrar prior to suspension.

Present law (R.S. 18:171 and 171.1) provides for recordation and reporting of felony convictions in state and federal courts for which there are orders of imprisonment. Requires the secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) to send to the Dept. of State a report, certified as correct over his signature or the signature of his authorized representative, containing the name, date of birth, sex, and address as such information exists in the database of any person who has a felony conviction and who is currently under the custody or supervision of DPS&C.

Present law requires the secretary of DPS&C to send supplemental reports to the Dept. of State on no less than a quarterly basis. Provides that upon receipt of a supplemental report, the Dept. of State shall confirm that the information therein has been entered into the department's databases and provide for correction, if necessary.

Present law requires the Dept. of State send to the registrar of voters of each parish such information received from DPS&C regarding persons with a felony conviction on no less than a quarterly basis.

Proposed law retains present law. Additionally requires the secretary of DPS&C to indicate in the supplement reports each person who has a felony conviction who has been released from the custody or supervision of DPS&C.

Effective Jan. 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 18:171(C)(1) and (2))