

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 263

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREGORY MILLER

ELECTIONS: Provides relative to the placement of voting machines during early voting and on election day

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1374, relative to elections; to provide relative to voting
3 equipment; to provide relative to procedures for voting; to provide relative to the
4 duties of election officials; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:1374 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §1374. Equipment of polling places; location of machines

8 A. To the extent possible, the authority charged with the selection of polling
9 places shall designate polling places which are equipped with proper electric current,
10 fixtures, and outlets necessary to properly operate the voting machines and otherwise
11 conduct the election.

12 B.(1)(a) Each voting machine used during early voting shall be placed inside
13 the polling place and shall be in full view of the public during each day of early
14 voting from the time the polling place is opened until the last elector has voted.

15 (b) Each voting machine used on election day shall be placed inside the
16 polling place and shall be in full view of the public from the time the ~~election begins~~
17 polling place is opened until the last elector has voted.

18 (2) The commissioners and watchers shall be stationed near the voting
19 machines, and the commissioners shall regulate the admission of the voters thereto,

1 and each shall always be in full view of the other election commissioners and
2 watchers and, as far as possible, of the public.

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 263 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Gregory Miller

Abstract: Specifies that during each day of early voting and on election day voting machines shall be in full view of the public from the time the polling place is opened until the last elector has voted.

Present law (R.S. 18:1374) provides that to the extent possible, the authority charged with the selection of polling places shall designate polling places which are equipped with proper electric current, fixtures, and outlets necessary to properly operate the voting machines and otherwise conduct the election. Provides that each voting machine shall be placed inside the polling place and be in full view of the public. Provides that the commissioners and watchers shall be stationed near the voting machines, that the commissioners shall regulate the admission of the voters thereto, and that each shall always be in full view of the other election commissioners and watchers and, as far as possible, of the public.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the voting machines must be in full view of the public from the time the election begins until the last elector has voted.

Proposed law provides that the voting machines shall be in full view of the public beginning when the polling place is opened, instead of when the election begins. Specifies that the requirement applies during each day of early voting to voting machines used during early voting and on election day to machines used on election day.

(Amends R.S. 18:1374)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Clarify that the requirement to keep voting machines in full view of the public applies during each day of early voting to voting machines used during early voting and on election day to machines used on election day.