

SENATE BILL NO. 351

BY SENATOR CATHEY AND REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:443(B)(1), 443.1(B), the introductory paragraph of 443.2, (2)(a)(ii),(3), and (7), and 444(B)(1) and to enact R.S. 18:443(G), relative to state central committees; to provide relative to composition; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:443(B)(1), 443.1(B), the introductory paragraph of 443.2, (2)(a)(ii), (3), and (7), and 444(B)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:443(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§443. State central committee

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B.(1) All members of the state central committee of a recognized political party shall be elected every four years at the same time as the presidential preference primary election. ~~The term of office shall not extend for a period beyond the time for which the member was elected. Notwithstanding this provision, members elected in 1991 shall serve until their successors are chosen.~~

* * *

G.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (B)(1) of this Section, in the event an election for members of any such state central committee does not occur at the same time as the presidential preference primary in 2020, the members of the state central committee shall be elected at the runoff of the next regularly scheduled election. The secretary of state shall select the dates for qualification of candidates, conforming as closely as practicable with the timelines established in R.S. 18:467.

1 election in 1996 until noon on the second Saturday following the presidential
 2 preference primary in 2000, thereafter members shall serve a four-year term. **The**
 3 **term of office of the members shall be until the next presidential primary is**
 4 **held, or until their successors are qualified and elected in the event that the**
 5 **election for state central committee members cannot be held at the same time**
 6 **as the presidential preference primary election.**

7 * * *

8 (3) The members who serve pursuant to Item (2)(a)(i) of this Section and the
 9 newly elected members of any such state central committee shall meet at the state
 10 capitol, shall take office, and shall organize the committee at noon on the second
 11 Saturday following the election of the newly elected members. A majority of the
 12 total of the members who serve pursuant to Item (2)(a)(i) of this Section and the
 13 newly elected members of the committee shall constitute a quorum. ~~No member shall~~
 14 ~~exercise the proxy votes of more than three other members at any meeting.~~ A
 15 member of such state central committee may be present in person or by proxy.
 16 Proxies may be exercised in compliance with rules and regulations adopted by the
 17 state central committee.

18 * * *

19 (7) A state central committee shall adopt a plan to provide for the number of
 20 members of such committee and the apportionment thereof, and such plan shall be
 21 effective if the committee files a copy of the plan with the secretary of state not later
 22 than the ninetieth day prior to the opening of qualifying for the election of the
 23 members of such state central committee. **Any plan previously filed by the state**
 24 **central committee shall remain in effect until rescinded or replaced by the state**
 25 **central committee.** ~~If a state central committee does not adopt and file a plan as~~
 26 ~~provided herein, the membership of such state central committee shall be composed~~
 27 ~~of one hundred forty-four members with one member elected from each of the~~
 28 ~~districts from which members of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the~~
 29 ~~Legislature are elected.~~ **The term of office of the members shall be until their**
 30 **successors are qualified and elected.**

1 §444. Parish executive committees

2 * * *

3 B. Election and term. (1) Members of a parish executive committee of a
4 recognized political party shall be elected every four years at the same time as the
5 presidential preference primary election. ~~The term of office shall not extend beyond~~
6 ~~the time for which the member was elected. Notwithstanding this provision,~~
7 ~~members elected in 1991 shall serve until their successors are chosen.~~ **The term of**
8 **office of the members shall be until their successors are qualified and elected.**

9 * * *

10 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
11 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
12 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
13 this Act is vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act
14 shall become effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____