HLS 202ES-76 ORIGINAL

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUPLESSIS

1

VOTING/REGISTRATION: Requests the secretary of state to adopt a policy to ensure that routine maintenance of the Department of State's online voter registration system does not occur during certain time periods

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the secretary of state to adopt a policy to ensure that routine
3	maintenance of the Department of State's online voter registration system does not
4	occur on or immediately prior to voter registration deadlines or on National Voter
5	Registration Day or during Voter Registration Week.
6	WHEREAS, "National Voter Registration Day", first observed in 2012, is a
7	nonpartisan civic holiday that has quickly become popular, with nearly three million voters
8	registering to vote on the holiday since its inception; and
9	WHEREAS, "National Voter Registration Day" is recognized across the United
10	States and uses the strength of volunteers, organizations, and businesses to spread the word
11	about the importance of preparing for election day by registering to vote; and
12	WHEREAS, due to the challenging circumstances faced in 2020, engaging potential
13	voters through digital means has been more important than ever; and
14	WHEREAS, as reported by the National Association of State Election Directors in
15	2019, 2,620 Louisianians registered to vote online on National Voter Registration Day; and
16	WHEREAS, on September 22, 2020, at approximately 8:00 p.m., the secretary of
17	state's election and voting website went down for three and a half hours for scheduled
18	maintenance; and
19	WHEREAS, on August 14, 2020, the secretary of state's office scheduled such
20	maintenance for routine functionality, improvements, and bug fixes; and

1	WHEREAS, while the routine maintenance was scheduled a month in advance,
2	notice of the maintenance was not publicized by the secretary of state's office until the
3	morning of September 22, 2020; and
4	WHEREAS, although "National Voter's Registration Day" has been in existence for
5	eight years, the secretary of state's office displayed a lack of awareness, in admitting that the
6	scheduled maintenance on this day was an oversight; and
7	WHEREAS, this oversight left many unregistered voters and those seeking election
8	information without an essential resource during key hours of the evening; and
9	WHEREAS, the secretary of state should encourage broad voter registration, access,
10	and citizen participation in elections and ensure the integrity of Louisiana's electoral process.
11	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
12	urge and request the secretary of state to adopt a policy to ensure that routine maintenance
13	of the Department of State's online voter registration system does not occur on or
14	immediately prior to voter registration deadlines or on National Voter Registration Day or
15	during Voter Registration Week.
16	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such policy shall require that notice of routine
17	maintenance be published on the Department of State's website at the time that it is
18	scheduled and actively and continuously available on the website for at least seven days
19	prior to the scheduled maintenance.
20	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such policy shall require that maintenance occur
21	between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.
22	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
23	secretary of state.

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)]

HCR 14 Original 2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Duplessis

Requests the secretary of state to adopt a policy to ensure that routine maintenance of the Dept. of State's online voter registration system does not occur on immediately prior to voter registration deadlines or on National Voter Registration Day or during Voter Registration Week.