SLS 21RS-425 REENGROSSED

2021 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 219

BY SENATOR CLOUD

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

VOTERS/VOTING. Provides relative to voter rolls. (6/1/22)

1 AN ACT

2

3

4

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

To enact R.S. 18:174, relative to voter records; to provide for reporting requirements; to provide for definitions; to provide for canvassing of registrants; to provide for address changes and corrections; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:174 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§174. Publicly owned utility

A. The chief administrative officer of each publicly owned utility in the state may send to the Department of State in a manner specified by the department a report, certified as correct over his signature or the signature of his authorized representative, containing the name, date of birth, mother's maiden name, address, telephone number, Louisiana driver's license or special identification card issued pursuant to R.S. 40:1321 number, service connection date, and service disconnection date, if available, of all residential customers in the area served by the utility on no less than a quarterly basis. The report shall also contain the last four digits of the social security number of all residential customers in the area served by the utility, if available.

1	B. For purposes of this Section, "publicly owned utility" means any
2	publicly owned or municipally controlled company, corporation, partnership,
3	business, system, or person that provides gas, electricity, or water to residential
4	consumers in Louisiana.
5	C. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, in each parish
6	with a publicly owned utility operating within the parish or in any portion of the
7	parish, the registrar of voters may verify the names and addresses of registrants
8	in all precincts in the area served by the utility using the report provided by the
9	utility.
10	D. In conducting the verification, if the utility operator provides an
11	address inside the parish that is different from the voter's address as it appears
12	on his voter registration, the registrar of voters shall send the voter an address
13	confirmation card as provided in R.S. 18:198.
14	Section 2. This Act shall become effective on June 1, 2022; if vetoed by the
15	governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on
16	June 1, 2022, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

The original instrument was prepared by LG Sullivan. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Matt DeVille.

DIGEST

SB 219 Reengrossed

2021 Regular Session

Cloud

Proposed law provides that the chief administrative officer of each publicly owned utility in the state may send a report to the Department of State containing the name, date of birth, mother's maiden name, address, telephone number, Louisiana driver's license or special identification card number, service connection and disconnection date, if available, of every residential customer in the area served by the utility on no less than a quarterly basis. Proposed law further provides that the report shall contain the last four digits of the residential customers' social security number.

Proposed law defines "publicly owned utility" as any publicly owned or municipally controlled company, corporation, partnership, business, system, or person that provides gas, electricity, or water to residential customers in Louisiana.

Proposed law provides that in each parish with a publicly owned utility operating within the parish or a portion of the parish the parish registrar of voters may utilize the report from the publicly owned utility to verify the names and addresses of registered voters in all precincts served by the utility beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

Proposed law provides that if the utility operator provides an address that is different from

Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

the voter's address as it appears on his voter registration during the verification process, the registrar of voters shall send the voter an address confirmation card as provided in <u>present</u> law.

Effective June 1, 2022.

(Adds R.S. 18:174)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

<u>Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to the original bill</u>

- 1. Makes annual canvass of utility records permissive.
- 2. Removes provisions making failure to conduct the canvass willful misconduct.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

- 1. Allows each publicly owned utility to report residential customer information to the Department of State.
- 2. Specifies the customer information required in the report.
- 3. Defines publicly owned utility.
- 4. Establishes when a parish registrar of voters may utilize the report to verify names and addresses of registered voters in all precincts served by the utility.
- 5. Requires the registrar of voters to send the voter an address verification card if the utility report contains an address inside the parish that is different from the voter's address as it appears on his voter registration.