Present law provides for the process of challenging absentee by mail ballots. Proposed law adds that an absentee ballot with an affidavit flap missing required information that is not cured by the voter be considered challenged and requires at least a majority of the members of the Parish Board of Election Supervisors to hear and determine the validity of the ballot. If the affidavit flap of such ballot is missing the signature of the voter or witness, or the voter’s mother’s maiden name, then the challenge is sustained and the vote is not counted. The voter should then be notified in writing of the challenge and cause for the rejection. Proposed law requires the Department of State to adopt rules for a standard challenge process and procedure with regards to missing information on the affidavit flap.

Proposed law also requires the Department of State to adopt rules for preprint information on the affidavit flap, including the date of the election and the ward and precinct of the vote.

**EXPENDITURES EXPLANATION**

Proposed law may increase expenditures for the Parish Board of Election Supervisors out of Local Funds for the cost of postage to notify voters of rejected ballots due to missing information on the affidavit flap. Proposed law requires that if a ballot is rejected due to missing information on the affidavit flap, the voter must be notified in writing of the challenge and the reason for the rejection. The Board of Election Supervisors may experience a minimal increase in revenues from local funds to cover the cost of postage to send the notification of rejection to the voter. This increase in expenditure is indeterminable and will depend on the number of voters who fail to cure missing information on affidavit flaps.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.