

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 114

BY REPRESENTATIVES FARNUM, AMEDEE, BACALA, BILLINGS, BUTLER,
CHENEVERT, DOMANGUE, EMERSON, FIRMENT, HORTON, ILLG, OWEN,
ROMERO, SCHAMERHORN, AND TARVER

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:192, 193(H), and 198(A), to enact R.S. 18:191.1, and to
3 repeal R.S. 18:193(B) and (I), relative to the annual canvass of persons registered to
4 vote; to provide for criteria for the annual canvass; to provide for the duties of the
5 Department of State; to provide relative to the address confirmation notice; to
6 provide relative to the inactive list of voters; to provide for updating voter
7 registration information; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related
8 matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 18:192, 193(H), and 198(A) are hereby amended and reenacted and
11 R.S. 18:191.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §191.1. Address confirmation notice

13 For the purposes of this Part, the Department of State shall develop an
14 address confirmation notice which shall include a postage prepaid and preaddressed
15 return notice sent by forwardable mail and shall inform the registrant about his
16 voting rights under the address confirmation process. The address confirmation
17 notice shall be submitted by the Department of State to the House Committee on
18 House and Governmental Affairs and the Senate Committee on Senate and
19 Governmental Affairs for review.

20 §192. Annual canvass; costs

21 A.(1)(a) No later than June thirtieth ~~in each parish~~, the registrar of voters of
22 each parish in conjunction with the Department of State shall annually canvass the

1 names of the registrants in all precincts in the parish. Failure of the registrar to
 2 conduct an annual canvass as provided in this ~~Paragraph~~ Subsection shall constitute
 3 willful misconduct relating to his official duty for the purposes of R.S. 18:53. The
 4 Department of State shall use the United States Postal Service or its licensee to
 5 verify the names and addresses of the registrants in all precincts in the state. A
 6 verification by the United States Postal Service or its licensee shall constitute a valid
 7 canvass of the registered voter.

8 ~~(b)~~ (2) In conducting the verification, if the United States Postal Service or
 9 its licensee provides a corrected address, the Department of State shall furnish the
 10 corrected address to the appropriate registrar of voters. Upon receiving a corrected
 11 address inside the parish, either the Department of State or the registrar of voters
 12 shall update the voter's address ~~may make the change~~ on the statewide registration
 13 system and ~~the registrar of voters may make the change on his records.~~ If a change
 14 ~~is made, the registrar shall~~ mail a new voter identification information card to the
 15 voter using the corrected address provided and an address confirmation notice as
 16 provided in R.S. 18:193. ~~In the event~~ If the new voter identification information card
 17 using the corrected address is returned to the registrar and the voter has failed to
 18 return the address confirmation notice, the registrar shall consider the address not
 19 corrected. The registrar shall change his records to reflect the prior address on file
 20 for that voter. If the corrected address is outside of the parish, the registrar of voters
 21 shall not make the change on his records and shall send an address confirmation
 22 notice as provided in R.S. 18:193.

23 ~~(2) For a registrant whose address was not verified or whose corrected~~
 24 ~~address is outside of the parish, the registrar shall send an address confirmation~~
 25 ~~notice as set forth in R.S. 18:193.~~

26 ~~B.~~ (3) The parish governing authority shall provide to the registrar of voters
 27 the funding necessary for the mailing of new voter identification information cards
 28 in the conduct of the canvass.

29 B.(1) No later than June thirtieth, the Department of State shall conduct an
 30 annual canvass as provided in this Subsection. Using information available in the

1 state voter registration computer system, the secretary of state shall identify
2 registrants who meet all the following criteria:

3 (a) The registrant's name did not appear with a corrected address provided
4 by the United States Postal Service or its licensee pursuant to Subsection A of this
5 Section.

6 (b) The registrant failed to engage in any of the following activities in the
7 past ten years: vote in an election; make an application for voter registration; request
8 an absentee ballot; validly sign a petition submitted to the registrar of voters for
9 certification pursuant to law; change a name, address, or party affiliation or
10 nonaffiliation; make any other change in registration; or participate in the nursing
11 home program.

12 (2) The Department of State shall send an address confirmation notice to
13 each identified registrant and transfer the registrant to the inactive list of voters.

14 ~~C. For the purposes of this Section, "residence address" shall mean the~~
15 ~~registrant's place of residence except in the case of a registrant to whom the United~~
16 ~~States Postal Service will not deliver mail to his place of residence, it shall mean the~~
17 ~~registrant's mailing address.~~

18 §193. Challenge and cancellation of registration; notice; procedures

19 * * *

20 H. If the registrar determines that a voter's registration has been cancelled
21 through error of the registrar or the Department of State, the registrar shall reinstate
22 the voter's registration as though the cancellation had never occurred and shall notify
23 the registrant of the reinstatement.

24 * * *

25 §198. Change of residence or change in address; inquiry by registrar; change of
26 records

27 A. Whenever a registrar has reason to believe that a registrant has changed
28 his residence within the parish or that a change has occurred in the registrant's
29 mailing address within the parish, the registrar shall mail ~~the~~ an address confirmation

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1 notice to the registrant as provided in R.S. 18:193, ~~R.S. 18:193(B)~~ to the registrant
2 but shall not place the voter on the inactive list of voters.

3 * * *

4 Section 2. R.S. 18:193(B) and (I) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

5 Section 3. This Act shall become effective on March 31, 2025.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____