

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 737

BY REPRESENTATIVE JEFFERSON

VOTING/REGISTRATION: Requires certain reports regarding satisfaction of orders of imprisonment for conviction of a felony

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:177.1, relative to registration of voters; to require certain  
3 reports relative to orders of imprisonment; to require certain actions by certain  
4 election officials; to provide for certain notice; to provide for the reinstatement of  
5 registration in certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 18:177.1 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §177.1. Satisfaction of order of imprisonment; provision of information relative to  
9 registration and reinstatement; reporting; notice

10 A. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall provide each  
11 person who completes all orders of imprisonment applicable to him for felony  
12 convictions with the following:

13 (1) Information apprising the person of the requirements and procedures for  
14 registering to vote and for reinstatement of registration.

15 (2) A state mail voter registration application.

16 B. The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall  
17 send to the Department of State a report, certified as correct over his signature or the  
18 signature of his authorized representative, containing the name, date of birth, sex,  
19 and address as such information exists in the database, of any person who has  
20 completed an order of imprisonment for a felony conviction. The report shall be sent

1 to the Department of State at least on a quarterly basis. Upon receipt of the report,  
2 the Department of State shall compare the information on the report with the  
3 information in its databases and provide for correction, if necessary.

4 C. The Department of State shall send to the registrar of voters of each  
5 parish, at least on a quarterly basis, the information received from the Department  
6 of Public Safety and Corrections regarding each person who has completed an order  
7 of imprisonment for a felony conviction. If, based on such information, the registrar  
8 of voters believes a person may be entitled to reinstatement of registration or if the  
9 registrar of voters believes a person may be eligible to register to vote in the parish  
10 of the registrar, the registrar shall send a notice to such person informing the person  
11 of the requirements and the procedures relative to registration and reinstatement.

12 D. The information from the Department of Public Safety and Corrections  
13 sent to the registrar by the Department of State shall serve as the documentation  
14 required by R.S. 18:177 for reinstatement of registration.

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#### 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)]

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Jefferson

HB No. 737

**Abstract:** Requires the secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to send the Dept. of State a report containing specified information regarding any person who has completed his order of imprisonment for a felony conviction; requires the Dept. of State to send such information to each registrar; and requires the registrar, under certain circumstances, to send a notice to such person informing the person of the requirements and procedures for registration or reinstatement of registration.

Present law (R.S. 18:177) provides for reinstatement of the registration of a person whose registration has been suspended by the registrar for conviction of a felony when the person appears in his office and provides documentation from the appropriate correction official showing that such person is no longer under an order of imprisonment.

Present law (R.S. 18:177.1) requires the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to provide each person who completes all orders of imprisonment applicable to him for felony convictions with the following:

- (1) Information apprising the person of the requirements and procedures for registering to vote and for reinstatement of registration.
- (2) A state mail voter registration application.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally requires the secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to send the Dept. of State a report, certified as correct, containing the name, date of birth, sex, and address of any person who has completed his order of imprisonment for a felony conviction, at least on a quarterly basis. Requires the Dept. of State to compare the information with the information in its databases and provide for correction, if necessary. Requires the Dept. of State to send the registrar of each parish such information at least on a quarterly basis. Provides that if the registrar believes the person may be entitled to reinstatement of registration or believes the person may be eligible to register to vote in his parish, the registrar shall send a notice to such person informing the person of the requirements and procedures for registration or reinstatement. Specifies that the information from the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections sent to the registrar by the Dept. of State shall serve as the documentation required by present law for reinstatement.

(Amends R.S. 18:177.1)