
DIGEST

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HB 654 Original

2016 Regular Session

Gregory Miller

Abstract: Allows a person with a visible physical disability to execute an affidavit in order to receive assistance in voting on election day and during early voting.

Present law (R.S. 18:564 and 1309.3) provides for assistance in voting on election day and during early voting. Requires a person who seeks assistance in voting to file certain required documentation with the registrar prior to voting or to present certain documentation to election officials at the polls.

Proposed law retains present law. Provides, however, that a person with a visible physical disability who cannot meet the requirements of present law shall complete and sign an affidavit supplied by the secretary of state stating that he is unable to vote without assistance because of a physical disability and stating the nature of the disability. Requires the affidavit to include the person's date of birth and mother's maiden name. Provides that if the person is unable to read or write or is otherwise unable to complete the affidavit due to disability, the person may receive assistance in completing the affidavit and the commissioner shall make a notation on the affidavit. Provides that the person may receive the assistance of any person of his choice, including a commissioner, except a candidate, commissioner-in-charge, the person's employer or employer's agent, or the person's union agent. Requires the commissioners to place the affidavit in the envelope marked "Registrar of Voters" and attach the envelope to the precinct register. Provides that the person shall then be allowed to receive assistance in voting.

(Adds R.S. 18:564(D)(3) and 1309.3(D)(3))