

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 483

BY REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOHNSON

ELECTION OFFENSES: Provides relative to penalties for certain election offenses

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 18:1473, relative to election offenses; to provide relative to the criminal
3 penalties for certain election offenses; to provide for restitution for election expenses
4 under certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:1473 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §1473. Restitution for election expenses

8 In addition to the penalties provided elsewhere in this Chapter, a person
9 convicted pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter may be ordered to make full or
10 partial restitution to the state, a local or municipal entity, or both, for election
11 expenses incurred in conducting a new election ordered as a result of the offense.If
12 a person ordered to make restitution is found to be unable to make restitution at the
13 time of conviction, the court shall order a periodic payment plan consistent with the
14 person's ability to pay.

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)]

HB 483 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Mike Johnson

Abstract: Allows for restitution of certain election expenses by persons convicted of election offenses.

Present law (Ch. 10 of Title 18) provides for election offenses, including bribery; coercion; offenses affecting registration; election fraud and forgery; offenses affecting election officials and watchers; offenses involving threats and intimidation of voters, election officials, and candidates; and tampering with election equipment. Provides penalties for violations of present law.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that in addition to the penalties provided in present law, a person convicted pursuant to the provisions of present law may be ordered to make full or partial restitution to the state, a local or municipal entity, or both, for election expenses incurred in conducting a new election ordered as a result of the offense. Provides that if a person ordered to make restitution is found to be unable to make restitution at the time of conviction, the court shall order a periodic payment plan consistent with the person's ability to pay.

(Adds R.S. 18:1473)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Remove the requirement that the convicted person be indigent in order to make restitution through a periodic payment plan.