

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 485

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHITNEY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

ELECTIONS/CONGRESSIONAL: Provides for the qualifying period for congressional elections

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:467(2), relative to qualifying for certain elections; to provide  
3 for the qualifying period for congressional primary elections and elections held at the  
4 same time; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:467(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §467. Opening of qualifying period

8 The qualifying period for candidates in a primary election shall open:

9 \* \* \*

10 (2) For candidates in a congressional primary election and those in any  
11 special primary election to be held at the same time, on the ~~third~~ first Wednesday in  
12 August of the year of the election.

13 \* \* \*

14 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
15 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
16 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
17 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
18 effective on the day following such approval.

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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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Whitney

HB No. 485

**Abstract:** Changes the opening of the qualifying period for congressional elections from the third Wed. in Aug. to the first Wed. in Aug.

Present law (R.S. 18:402(B)) provides that primary elections for members of congress and officers elected at the same time as members of congress shall be held on the first Tues. after the first Mon. in Nov. of an election year. Provides that general elections for members of congress and officers elected at the same time as members of congress shall be held on the fifth Sat. after the first Tues. after the first Mon. in Nov. of an election year.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 18:467) provides that the qualifying period for candidates in a congressional primary election and those in any special primary election to be held at the same time shall open on the third Wed. in Aug. of the year of the election. Proposed law changes the opening of the qualifying period from the third Wed. in Aug. to the first Wed. in Aug.

Present law (R.S. 18:468) provides that the qualifying period for candidates in a congressional primary election shall close at 5 p.m. on the Fri. after the opening of the qualifying period or, if that Fri. is a legal holiday, at 5 p.m. on the next day which is not a legal holiday. Proposed law retains present law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 18:467(2))