

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHLEGEL

VOTERS/VOTING: Provides relative to the removal of deceased voters from the voter registration rolls

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the registrar of voters of each parish to submit to the Department of
3 State, and for the Department of State to subsequently submit to the Louisiana House
4 of Representatives, an annual report on the results of the annual canvass of registered
5 voters and the removal of deceased voters from the voter registration rolls in each
6 parish.

7 WHEREAS, Louisiana's voter rolls should only include living United States citizens
8 who reside at the address listed in the voter rolls; and

9 WHEREAS, Article I, Section 10 of the Constitution of Louisiana provides for the
10 right to vote and was amended, with the approval of seventy-three percent of the vote at the
11 December 10, 2022, election, to provide that no person who is not a citizen of the United
12 States shall be allowed to register and vote in this state; and

13 WHEREAS, as evidenced by the successful passage of the constitutional amendment,
14 Louisiana voters value the integrity of the right to vote and the voter registration process;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, R.S. 18:192 and 193 requires the registrar of voters of each parish to
17 conduct an annual canvass for the purpose of identifying registered voters who are no longer
18 qualified to be registered or have changed their residence; and

19 WHEREAS, to facilitate the canvass process, the law further requires the Department
20 of State to use the United States Postal Service or its licensee to verify the names and
21 addresses of the registrants in all precincts in the state; and

1 WHEREAS, R.S. 18:173, which provides for the removal of deceased voters from
2 the voting rolls, was amended by Act No. 364 of the 2021 Regular Session of the
3 Legislature, which passed unanimously in the House of Representatives and Senate and was
4 subsequently signed by the governor; and

5 WHEREAS, R.S. 18:173 requires the registrar of voters of each parish to remove
6 from the voter registration rolls the names of deceased voters upon receipt of a certified copy
7 of the voter's death certificate and requires the registrar of voters to search obituaries for
8 deceased persons whose registrations were not cancelled and to cancel such registrations
9 accordingly; and

10 WHEREAS, the law further requires the Department of State to cancel the
11 registration of any deceased person as deaths are reported to the department by the
12 Department of Health; and

13 WHEREAS, as evidenced by the unanimous vote of the legislature in passing Act
14 No. 364, the legislature finds it a priority that the voting rolls be properly maintained and
15 that deceased voters be promptly removed.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
17 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request that the Department of State and the
18 registrar of voters of each parish complete the legal requirements of R.S. 18:173 in a timely
19 manner.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives does hereby urge
21 and request the registrar of voters of each parish to annually submit a report to the
22 Department of State, on or before July thirtieth, that includes the following:

- 23 (1) Actions taken by the registrar's office in the prior year to canvass and verify voter
24 registration information, the total number of voters verified by the canvass, the total
25 number of voters not verified by the canvass, and any actions taken as a result of the
26 canvass process.
- 27 (2) The number of deceased voters removed from the voter rolls in the prior year.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives does hereby urge
2 and request that the Department of State annually submit a report to the House of
3 Representatives, on or before August thirtieth, that includes the following:

4 (1) Actions taken by the Department of State and each registrar of voters in the prior
5 year to canvass and verify voter registration information, the total number of voters
6 verified by the canvass, the total number of voters not verified by the canvass, and
7 any actions taken as a result of the canvass process.

8 (2) The number of deceased voters removed from the voter rolls in each parish in the
9 prior year.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
11 secretary of state and the registrar of voters of each parish.

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)]

HR 1 Original

2023 Regular Session

Schlegel

Requires that the Dept. of State and each registrar of voters report to the House of Representatives regarding the efforts undertaken pursuant to and the results of the annual canvass and the removal of deceased voters from the voter rolls in each parish.