

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 145

BY REPRESENTATIVE WESLEY BISHOP

VOTING/REGISTRATION: Requests the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to study the feasibility of implementing same-day voter registration in the state and report its findings to the legislature by Dec. 31, 2012

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to study the  
3 feasibility of implementing same-day voter registration in the state and to report its  
4 findings to the legislature by December 31, 2012.

5 WHEREAS, Louisiana law provides that, except in cases of emergency, voter  
6 registration records close thirty days prior to an election and that generally no entries or  
7 changes in the registration records are made thereafter; and

8 WHEREAS, the period of time immediately preceding an election is when many  
9 voters focus on candidates and campaign issues; and

10 WHEREAS, allowing a person to register and vote on the same day makes voting  
11 accessible and convenient and, therefore, increases participation in the electoral process; and

12 WHEREAS, eight states, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire,  
13 Wisconsin, and Wyoming, allow for same-day voter registration on election day, and two  
14 additional states, North Carolina and Ohio, allow for same-day registration during the early  
15 voting period; and

16 WHEREAS, Louisiana recently began allowing citizens with a valid Louisiana  
17 driver's license or special identification card to register electronically on the secretary of  
18 state's website; and

1           WHEREAS, technology is available, including the statewide voter registration  
2 database, that can be used to implement same-day voter registration in Louisiana and at the  
3 same time protect the integrity of the electoral process.

4           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the House Committee on House and  
6 Governmental Affairs to study the feasibility of implementing same-day voter registration  
7 in the state and report its findings to the legislature by December 31, 2012.

8           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall specifically solicit input,  
9 recommendations, and advice from the secretary of state.

10          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
11 to the secretary of state.

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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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Wesley Bishop

HR No. 145

Requests the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to study the feasibility of implementing same-day voter registration in the state and to report its findings to the legislature by Dec. 31, 2012.