

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the clerks of court to develop and utilize innovative strategies to recruit commissioners for polling places.

WHEREAS, poll commissioners conduct primary and general elections, enforce the election laws, and maintain order at the polling place during the election and during the printing of results from the voting machines; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's elections cannot be conducted without poll commissioners present to facilitate the voting process by checking identification, making sure those voting have the proper credentials, and ensuring that voters are at the correct precinct; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2020, the secretary of state indicated that Louisiana is currently facing a shortage of poll commissioners; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2020, the secretary of state's office announced the launch of a recruitment campaign for election workers to help set up the polling locations and verify voter registrations; and

WHEREAS, the number of poll commissioners for each precinct in each election changes based on the size of the election; and

WHEREAS, there are currently a large number of commissioner vacancies in the most populated parishes of Louisiana: East Baton Rouge and Jefferson; and

WHEREAS, the emergency election plan proposed by the secretary of state and adopted by the legislature illustrates the urgency and the need for encouraging other members of the public to serve; and

WHEREAS, poll commissioners are essential to the success of any election, and there are never enough capable, committed residents willing to participate in the election

process by working as poll commissioners on election day; it is vital that more citizens be encouraged and recruited to participate in the electoral process at the precinct level.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the clerks of court to develop and utilize innovative strategies to recruit commissioners for polling places.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES