PROPOSITION PACKET

YES NO

INFORMATION for Proposition Elections



SECRETARY OF STATE

NANCY LANDRY SECRETARY OF STATE



P.O. BOX 94125 BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-9125

Dear Friend:

The Secretary of State's office receives many requests for information about submitting propositions for placement on ballots during an election. The enclosed materials include a sample submission and other information which should be helpful throughout the process.

If you have any further questions regarding the enclosed proposition packet, you may contact the Elections Division of Secretary of State's office at 225.922.0900, or toll free at 1.800.883.2805.

I would also like to invite you to visit the Secretary of State's website at <u>www.sos.louisiana.gov</u> which contains other useful information about elections and voting.

Sincerely,

Nancy Landry Secretary of State

NL/mwk Enclosures



SECRETARY OF STATE STATE OF LOUISIANA

P.O. BOX 94125 BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-9125 225.922.2880 <u>WWW.SOS.LA.GOV</u>

General Information - Propositions

(Placing Bond, Debt, and Tax Propositions on the Ballot)

- 1. A proposition or question must be authorized by the state constitution, state law, or by home rule charter. (La R.S. 18:1299)
- 2. Election dates are set by law. (La R.S. 18:402)
- 3. Gaming, gambling or wagering referendum elections must be enacted by a bill through the legislature specifically authorizing the election. (La. Const. Art. XII, Sec. 6(C) and La R.S. 18:1300.22)
- The governing authority calls a bond, debt or tax proposition by resolution. See La R.S. 18:1284 and La R.S. 18:1285 for specific details.
- 5. The preparation of a question or proposition is the responsibility of the governing authority or other entity calling the election and is required to be comprised of simple, unbiased, concise and easily understood language and be in the form of a question and not exceed 200 words and cannot include words that are struck through, underscored, or in boldface type. The secretary of state is responsible for ensuring compliance. (La R.S. 18:1299.1)
- 6. The election is required to be noticed at least once a week for four consecutive weeks in the official journal. Notice shall run not less than 45 days and not more than 90 days prior to the election. (La R.S. 18:1285)
- 7. For bond, debt and tax propositions and any proposition subject to approval by the Louisiana State Bond Commission, please contact the bond commission at 225.342.0042 for additional information, including requirements for a certificate of approval. The bond commission holds its agenda review on the Monday proceeding the regular months meeting, which is held on the third Thursday of each month. **NOTE:** The following propositions **DO NOT** require bond commission approval:
 - A. Alcohol;
 - B. Sunday closing;
 - C. Stock law; and
 - D. Some leasing of public property (certain elections concerning public property have received bond commission approval)
- 8. Written notice of the election and the certificate of bond commission approval must be received by the secretary of state at least four weeks prior to the opening of the qualifying period for the <u>primary election</u>, and at least 54 days prior to the <u>general election</u>. (La R.S. 18:1285)
- 9. If a bond, debt or tax proposition fails, the Louisiana Constitution prohibits a political subdivision from submitting "the same tax proposition, or a new tax proposition that includes such a tax proposition, to the electorate more than once within a six month period except in the case of an emergency as determined by the governing authority of the political subdivision". (La. Const. Art. VI, Sec. 30). Approval is required by the bond commission and the governor.
- 10. The governing authority must file a Proces Verbal (a certified report that includes pertinent information regarding the election) with the secretary of state's office, Publications Division, whether the proposition passes or fails. Process Verbal filing fees are \$10 for the certificate and \$2 per page. (La R.S. 18:1292, La R.S 18:1293 and La R.S. 1400.2(C)(2))
- 11. Neighborhood Crime Prevention and Security District elections are governed by La R.S. 18:1300.31.

Excerpts from

Louisiana Election Code

Title 18

of the Louisiana Revised Statutes

R.S. 18:1281 – 18:1300

As Amended through the 2024 Third Extraordinary Session

§1280.26. Repealed by Acts 1983, No. 681, §2, eff. July 21, 1983.

§1280.27. Delegates to political party conventions; selection; oaths; voting; allocation among presidential nominees

A. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, at least ninety days prior to a presidential preference primary election, the state governing body of each eligible political party shall establish procedures to be followed in the selection of individual delegates and alternates to the convention of that party, including procedures for the selection of committed and uncommitted delegates. A copy of any rule adopted by the state party committee shall be filed with the secretary of state within seven days after its adoption and shall become public record.

B. Delegates shall be allocated among the presidential candidates according to the results of the presidential primary and according to guidelines established by the governing bodies of the respective parties.

C. Repealed by Acts 1984, No. 672, §3.

Added by Acts 1979, No. 684, §1, eff. Dec. 1, 1979. S.C.R. No. 4, 1983, 2nd Ex. Sess. Acts 1984, No. 672, §1; Acts 1986, No. 35, §1, eff. June 17, 1986; Acts 1986, No. 427, §1.

CHAPTER 6-A. BOND, DEBT, AND TAX ELECTIONS

§1281. Statement of purpose

The purpose of this Chapter is to implement Article VI, Section 22 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 by establishing a uniform procedure for the conduct of elections to authorize the issuance of bonds, the assumption of indebtedness, and the imposition or increase of taxes by political subdivisions. The procedure for elections set forth in this Chapter shall apply to and shall supersede those provisions of the Louisiana Constitution of 1921 which were continued as statutes under authority of Part II of Article XIV of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and existing laws of the state of Louisiana, notwithstanding any contrary provisions contained therein. However, nothing contained in this Chapter shall repeal the limitations in effect on January 1, 1975 on the authority of political subdivisions to impose or increase taxes.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978.

§1282. Political subdivision defined

For purposes of this Chapter, the term "political subdivision" means a state department, agency, board, or commission; a parish; a municipality; a school board and a school district; a levee board and a levee district; a port board and a port commission; a port, harbor, terminal and industrial district; and any special service district, including but not limited to a road, water, sewerage, fire, protection, recreation, gas utility, or garbage district, and any other board, district, or unit of local government authorized by law to conduct elections for the issuance of bonds, the levying or increasing of any tax, or the assumption of indebtedness.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978.

§1283. Elections

A. In every case in which the provisions of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 as now existing or hereafter amended, or of law, as now existing or hereafter amended or enacted, requires the approval of voters at an election in a political subdivision as a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds, levying or increasing of any tax, or the assumption of indebtedness by said political subdivision, the election shall be held substantially in accordance with the election laws set forth in Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of

1950, except that the election shall be called, conducted, canvassed, promulgated, and notice thereof given by the governing authority of the political subdivision in accordance with the procedures hereinafter set forth.

B. The governing authority of the political subdivision may call a special election for any of these purposes to be held on any of the dates set forth in R.S. 18:402(F), and it shall call an election for any of these purposes when requested to do so by the petition in writing of one-fourth of the electors qualified to vote at an election.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978.

§1284. Resolution calling election; proposition

A. The election shall be ordered by a resolution of the governing authority of the political subdivision which shall state the purpose for which it is called.

B. If the purpose of the election is to authorize the issuance of bonds, the resolution and the proposition submitted to the voters shall state the purpose for which the bonds are to be issued and, if required by the law pursuant to which the bonds are issued, the estimated millage rate to be levied in the first year of issue, the maximum amount of the bonds to be issued, the number of years for which the bonds are to run, and the maximum rate of interest on the bonds.

C. If the purpose of the election is to authorize the levy or increase of a special tax, the resolution and the proposition submitted to the voters shall state the rate, object, and purpose for which the tax is to be levied or increased; the estimated amount reasonably expected to be collected from the levy or increase of the tax for one entire year at the time it is proposed; and, if it is to be limited as to duration, the number of years it is to run. If the purpose of the election is to authorize an increase of a tax, the resolution and the proposition shall also state the rate increase. The contents of any proposition or resolution relative to the issuance of general obligation bonds shall be as provided in Subsection B of this Section.

D. If the purpose of the election is to authorize the assumption of indebtedness, the resolution and the proposition submitted to the voters shall state the amount and nature of the debt to be assumed.

E. In each election ordered by a governing authority of a political subdivision for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of bonds, the proposition on the ballot submitted to the voters shall state the kind and source of revenues which are pledged to retire the bonds.

F.(1) The preparation of the proposition to be submitted to the voters at an election shall be the responsibility of the governing authority of the political subdivision ordering the election. The proposition shall include the information required by this Section in simple, unbiased, concise, and easily understood language and be in the form of a question. The proposition shall not exceed two hundred words in length and shall not include words that are struck through, underscored, or in boldface type.

(2) The secretary of state shall be responsible for ensuring that the proposition complies with the requirements of this Section.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978. Amended by Acts 1978, No. 292, §1, eff. July 6, 1978; Acts 1983, No. 519, §1, eff. July 8, 1983; Acts 1993, No. 426, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1994; Acts 2003, No. 1220, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2004; Acts 2006, No. 768, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2007; Acts 2008, No. 136, §1, eff. June 6, 2008; Acts 2010, No. 591, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2011; Acts 2012, No. 138, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 2013; Acts 2014, No. 60, §1, eff. May 16, 2014.

§1285. Notice of election

A.(1)(a)(i) Notice of the election shall be given and shall embrace substantially all matters required to be set forth in the resolution ordering the election, including a list of precincts where the proposition will be voted on and an indication for each precinct as to whether or not all registered voters in the precinct will be eligible to vote on the proposition, unless the proposition is to be voted on parishwide.

(ii) If the notice is relative to the increase of a special tax, the notice shall also state the proposed increase in the millage rate of a property tax or percentage rate of sales tax.

(iii) If the notice is relative to an election which affects ad valorem taxation, the notice shall also state that a portion of the monies collected shall be remitted to certain state and statewide retirement systems in the manner required by law.

(iv) The notice shall also state that the governing authority of the political subdivision ordering the election will, in open session, at the hour and place named, proceed to canvass the returns and declare the result of the election.

(v) The notice shall also state the estimated cost of the election as determined by the secretary of state based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of this Title and actual costs of similar elections.

(b) The list of commissioners for an election called in accordance with R.S. 18:1286(A) is not required to be set forth in the notice of election.

(2) The notice shall be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in the official journal of the political subdivision, or, if there is none, then in a newspaper of general circulation in the parish or, if there is no newspaper of general circulation in the parish, then in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining parish. Not less than forty-five days nor more than ninety days shall intervene between the date of the first publication and the date of the election.

NOTE: Subparagraph (B)(1)(a) eff. until Aug. 1, 2025, for certain purposes, and eff. until Jan. 1, 2026, for all other purposes. See Acts 2024, No. 640.

B.(1)(a) Written notice of the election and the certificate required by Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph shall be transmitted to the secretary of state and each clerk of court and registrar of voters in the area affected by the election. If the election is to be held on a primary election date, then such notice and certificate shall be received by the secretary of state at least four weeks prior to the opening of the qualifying period for the primary election. If the election is not to be held on a primary election date, then the notice and certificate shall be received by the secretary of state on or before the fifty-fourth day prior to the election. The secretary of state shall not accept any revisions to propositions, including but not limited to changes in title, text, or numerical designations, after the last day for submission of the notice and certificate to the secretary of state, unless prior to the printing of the ballots the revision will correct a typographical error and the revision has been approved by the governing authority that called the proposition election.

NOTE: Subparagraph (B)(1)(a) eff. Aug. 1, 2025, for certain purposes, and eff. Jan. 1, 2026, for all other purposes. See Acts 2024, No. 640.

B.(1)(a) Written notice of the election and the certificate required by Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph shall be transmitted to the secretary of state and each clerk of court and registrar of voters in the area affected by the election. If the election is to be held on a primary election date, then such notice and certificate shall be received by the secretary of state at least four weeks prior to the opening of the qualifying period for the primary election. If the election is not to be held on a primary election date, then the notice and certificate shall be received by the secretary of state on or before the sixty-first day prior to the election. The secretary of state shall not accept any revisions to propositions, including but not limited to changes in title, text, or numerical designations, after the last day for submission of the notice and certificate to the secretary of state, unless prior to the printing of the ballots, the revision will correct a typographical error and the revision has been approved by the governing authority that called the proposition election.

(b) The secretary of state shall not prepare or certify the ballot with respect to any election for bond, debt, or tax propositions, conducted pursuant to this Chapter, or in respect to any other election where the proposition is subject to approval by the Louisiana State Bond Commission, including but not limited to any

proposition to adopt, amend, or repeal a home rule charter which is subject to such approval, until he receives certification in writing from the chairman of that commission that the commission has considered and approved the proposition.

(2) The secretary of state shall not include any proposition on any ballot of any election if such notice and certificate required by Subparagraph (1)(b) of this Subsection are not timely received by the secretary of state. The failure of the clerk of court or registrar of voters to timely receive notice and the certificate, as provided for herein, shall not prevent the secretary of state from including the proposition on the ballot. Any elector who is eligible to vote in the election may apply for injunctive relief to prohibit the placing of a proposition on the ballot if notice and the certificate are not timely received by the secretary of state. Venue for such application shall be in any parish in which the election is called, and the secretary of state shall be a proper party defendant.

Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978; Acts 1979, No. 229, §1, eff. July 13, 1979; Acts 1980, No. 792, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 1981, No. 76, §1, eff. June 26, 1981; S.C.R. No. 8 of 1981 1st Ex. Sess; Acts 1984, No. 589, §1, eff. July 12, 1984; Acts 1986, No. 669, §1; Acts 1987, No. 831, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1988; Acts 1988, No. 909, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989, Acts 1989, No. 179, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1990; Acts 1992, No. 949, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1993; Acts 1993, No. 418, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1994; Acts 1995, No. 1114, §1; Acts 1997, No. 1420, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1998; Acts 1999, No. 254, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2000; Acts 2001, No. 451, §6, eff. Jan. 12, 2004; Acts 2006, No. 560, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2007; Acts 2010, No. 570, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2011; Acts 2010, No. 591, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2011; Acts 2012, No. 139, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 2013; Acts 2012, No. 283, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2013; Acts 2016, No. 281, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 2017; Acts 2019, No. 205, §1; Acts 2021, No. 381, §1, eff. June 17, 2021; Acts 2024, No. 640, §1, eff. See Act.

§1286. Polling places; election officers

A. When an election called under the provisions of this Chapter is not held at the same time as the election of any public official, the governing authority of the political subdivision ordering the election shall use the established polling places and provide the voting machines and a compiled statement of qualified voters. On or before the twenty-first day prior to such election, the parish board of election supervisors shall appoint the number of commissioners for each precinct as provided in R.S. 18:425(A)(1)(b) and not less than the same number of alternate commissioners for each precinct, all of whom shall meet the qualifications set forth in Part II of Chapter 5 of this Title. The commissioner-in-charge for each precinct at which an election called under the provisions of this Chapter is held shall be the commissioner-in-charge selected or appointed for such precinct under the provisions of Part II of Chapter 5 of this Title.

B. When an election called under the provisions of this Chapter is held at the same time as the election for any public official, the election shall be held solely in compliance with the provisions of Parts II and V of Chapter 5 of this Title, and the commissioners selected for the election for public officials shall be the commissioners for the election called under the provisions of this Chapter and shall only receive the compensation provided for in R.S. 18:424 and R.S. 18:425.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978. Amended by Acts 1978, No. 292, §1, eff. July 6, 1978; Acts 1982, No. 778, §1, eff. Aug. 4, 1982; Acts 1985, No. 754, §1; Acts 1988, No. 907, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1989, No. 179, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1990; Acts 2003, No. 1220, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2004.

§1286.1. Authority to consolidate polling places; reduction of number of voting machines and election officials

A. Notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 18:1286(A), when an election called under the provisions of this Chapter is not held at the same time as the election of any public official, in cases where more than one polling place is within the same location the parish board of election supervisors may consolidate polling places in that location, for that election and may reduce the number of voting machines to be used in the election below the number fixed by R.S. 18:1363 and, in such case, shall notify, in accordance with the time

line provided in R.S. 18:1363(H), the parish custodian of voting machines and the secretary of state of the number of machines to be prepared and delivered for the polling places so consolidated.

B. Whenever the parish board of election supervisors consolidates polling places as authorized by Subsection A of this Section, it shall appoint a commissioner-in-charge to serve at each such consolidated polling place and may reduce to not less than two the number of commissioners and alternate commissioners to be appointed to serve at each such polling place.

Added by Acts 1983, No. 519, §1, eff. July 8, 1983; Acts 2001, No. 451, §6, eff. Jan. 12, 2004; Acts 2017, No. 176, §1, eff. June 14, 2017.

§1287. Election officers; substitutes

The commissioner-in-charge and the commissioners shall be present at the polling place at least thirty minutes prior to the time the polls are to open. A commissioner-in-charge who fails to so appear shall be replaced in accordance with R.S. 18:433(H). If any commissioner fails to so appear, or if the number of commissioners present is less than the number necessary to conduct the election as previously established by the governing authority, the commissioner-in-charge shall appoint the necessary number of commissioners in accordance with R.S. 18:434(D)(2).

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978. Amended by Acts 1982, No. 778, §1, eff. Aug. 4, 1982.

§1288. Election officers; oaths

Commissioners-in-charge and commissioners shall take the oath or affirmation as provided by R.S. 18:424 and R.S. 18:425. A commissioner may administer any oath and receive any affidavit provided for in this Chapter.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978.

§1289. Penalty for violations

A. In elections held under the provisions of this Chapter the commissioners shall have the same powers and duties in conducting the elections and in preserving order at the polls as are conferred and imposed upon similar officers under the provisions of this Title for other elections. Whatever is declared in Chapter 10 of this Title to be a felony, misdemeanor or other crime shall be the same for any election held under the provisions of this Chapter and shall be punished in the same manner.

B. Any willful failure or neglect to comply with the requirements of this Chapter or any willful violation by any officer, agent, or employee of any political subdivision availing itself of the provisions of this Chapter shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars or more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, with or without hard labor, or by both fine and imprisonment.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978.

§1290. Qualification of voters

A. All qualified electors of the political subdivision ordering the election shall be entitled to vote in an election on the issuance of bonds, levying or increase of a tax, or the assumption of indebtedness by the political subdivision, and such bonds may be issued, such tax levied or increased, or indebtedness assumed if approved by a vote of a majority in number of the qualified electors voting on the proposition at such election as is provided in this Chapter. No voter shall be required to sign a ballot or vote assessed valuation of property.

B. The registrar of voters shall furnish to the election commissioners appointed to hold the election the precinct register for each precinct or polling place. No defect or irregularity in or omission from the register so furnished shall affect the validity of the election unless it is established that the voters were thereby deprived of votes sufficient in number to have changed the result of the election.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978.

§1291. Voting

Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, voting machines shall be used and the election laws of this state applicable to other elections held under this Title shall govern the conduct of the voting in elections held under this Chapter.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978.

§1292. Canvass of returns

A. On the date and at the hour and place specified in the notice of election, the governing authority ordering the election, in public session, shall examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the election.

B.(1) The result shall be promulgated by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the political subdivision or, if there is none, in a newspaper of general circulation in the parish or, if there is no newspaper of general circulation in the parish, then in a newspaper of general circulation in an adjoining parish.

(2) The governing authority shall include in the publication, in accordance with Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, a statement of the actual cost of the election as determined by the secretary of state in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 8-A of this Title.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978; Acts 2019, No. 205, §1.

§1293. Proces verbal

The governing authority ordering the election shall preserve a proces verbal of the canvass. If the election affects ad valorem taxation, the governing authority shall include a copy of the notice of election and proof of publication of the notice in the proces verbal. The governing authority shall forward a copy of the proces verbal to the secretary of state, who shall record it. A copy also shall be forwarded to the clerk of the district court, and in Orleans Parish to the clerk of the civil district court, who shall record it in the mortgage records. A copy shall be retained in the archives of the office of the governing authority ordering the election.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978; Acts 2012, No. 283, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2013.

§1294. Contests

For sixty days after promulgation of the results of an election held under this Chapter to incur debt, issue bonds, levy or increase a tax or assume debt, any person in interest may contest the legality of the election, the bond issue provided for, the tax authorized, or the assumption of indebtedness for any cause. After that time no one shall have any cause or right of action to contest the regularity, formality, or legality of the election, tax provisions, or bond authorization, for any cause whatsoever. If the validity of any election, tax, debt assumption, or bond issue authorized or provided for is not raised within the sixty days, the authority to incur or assume debt, levy the tax, or issue the bonds, the legality thereof, and the taxes and other revenues necessary to pay the same shall be conclusively presumed to be valid, and no court shall have authority to inquire into such matters.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978.

§1295. Special election to increase interest rate

A. Any parish, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state in which a special election has been held, at which election the issuance of bonds of said political subdivision has been approved and a maximum rate of interest to be borne by said bonds has been established may, through the respective governing authority thereof, call and hold a special election to authorize the issuance and sale of such bonds at a maximum rate of interest greater than that rate specified in the proposition or propositions previously approved. However, such greater maximum rate of interest so submitted for approval shall not exceed the maximum rate of interest than permitted by the applicable laws of the state for the type of bonds described in the aforesaid proposition or propositions.

B. Any election called and held hereunder shall be held and conducted under the same legal authority under which the previous election was held and conducted unless such laws since have been amended, in which event said election shall be held and conducted in accordance with the laws of the state then in effect with respect to the holding and conducting of special elections to authorize the issuance of such bonds. An election held and conducted hereunder shall have no effect other than to permit the issuance and sale of said bonds at a maximum rate of interest greater than that approved at the previously held election.

C. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this Chapter, the authority to issue any bonds approved in prior bond elections shall remain in full force and effect.

Added by Acts 1977, No. 545, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1978.

§1296. Repealed by Acts 1984, No. 672, §3.

CHAPTER 6-B. ELECTIONS AT WHICH A PROPOSITION OR QUESTION IS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS

§1299. Applicability

The provisions of this Chapter provide the procedures to be used in elections, except those provided for in Chapter 6-A of this Code, at which a proposition or question, authorized by the state constitution, by a statute of this state, or by a home rule charter, shall be submitted to the voters.

Added by Acts 1978, No. 292, §1, eff. July 6, 1978. Acts 1984, No. 672, §1.

§1299.1. Question or proposition to be voted on; length

A. The preparation of a question or proposition to be submitted to the voters at an election shall be the responsibility of the governing authority or other entity calling the election or submitting the question or proposition. The proposition shall be comprised of simple, unbiased, concise, and easily understood language and be in the form of a question. The proposition shall not exceed two hundred words in length and shall not include words that are struck through, underscored, or in boldface type.

B. The secretary of state shall be responsible for ensuring that the proposition complies with the requirements of this Section.

Added by Acts 1983, No. 519, §1, eff. July 8, 1983; Acts 1993, No. 426, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1994; Acts 2003, No. 1220, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2004; Acts 2008, No. 136, §1, eff. June 6, 2008; Acts 2012, No. 138, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 2013; Acts 2014, No. 60, §1, eff. May 16, 2014.

§1300. Procedures; notice of election; expenses

A.(1) When an election at which a proposition or question is to be submitted to the voters is held at the same time as an election for any public official, the election shall be held in compliance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of this Title.

(2) The commissioners selected to serve at the election for the public officials also shall serve as the commissioners for the election at which a proposition or question is to be submitted to the voters, and the compensation for each shall be only that amount provided for in R.S. 18:424 and R.S. 18:425 for the day of service as a commissioner or commissioner-in-charge.

B. When an election at which a proposition or question is to be submitted to the voters is not held at the same time as the election of any public official, the election shall be held solely in compliance with and shall be subject to the applicable provisions of Chapter 6-A of this Title.

C.(1) When an election is called under the provisions of this Chapter, written notice of the election shall be transmitted to the secretary of state, the commissioner of elections, and each clerk of court and registrar of voters in the area affected by the election. If the election is to be held on a primary election date, then such notice shall be received by the secretary of state at least four weeks prior to the opening of the qualifying period for the primary election. If the election is not to be held on a primary election date, then such notice shall be received by the secretary of state on or before the fifty-fourth day prior to the election.

(2) The secretary of state shall not accept any revisions to propositions or questions, including but not limited to changes in title, text, or numerical designations, after the last day for submission of the notice to the secretary of state, unless prior to the printing of the ballots the revision will correct a typographical error and the revision has been approved by the governing authority that called the proposition election. The secretary of state shall not include any proposition or question on any ballot of any election if such notice is not timely received by the secretary of state.

(3) Any elector who is eligible to vote in the election may apply for injunctive relief to prohibit the placing of a proposition on the ballot if notice is not timely received by the secretary of state. Venue for such application shall be in any parish in which the election is called, and the secretary of state shall be a proper party defendant.

D. Repealed by Acts 1983, No. 681, §2, eff. July 21, 1983.

Added by Acts 1978, No. 292, §1, eff. July 6, 1978. Amended by Acts 1980, No. 792, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 1981, No. 76, §1, eff. June 26, 1981; H.C.R. No. 8, 1981 1st Ex. Session; Acts 1982, No. 778, §1, eff. Aug. 4, 1982; Acts 1983, No. 681, §2, eff. July 21, 1983; Acts 1987, No. 831, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1988; Acts 1988, No. 909, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1989, No. 179, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1990; Acts 1992, No. 949, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1993; Acts 1993, No. 418, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1994; Acts 1995, No. 1114, §1; Acts 1997, No. 1420, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1998; Acts 1999, No. 254, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2000; Acts 2001, No. 451, §6, eff. Jan. 12, 2004; Acts 2001, No. 1181, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2002; Acts 2006, No. 560, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2007; Acts 2010, No. 570, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2011; Acts 2012, No. 139, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 2013; Acts 2016, No. 281, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 2017; Acts 2021, No. 381, §1, eff. June 17, 2021.

CHAPTER 6-C. RECALL ELECTIONS

§1300.1. Recall authorized

Any public officer, excepting judges of the courts of record, may be recalled in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. However, no recall petition may be submitted for certification to or accepted for certification by the registrar of voters or any other official if less than six months remain in the term of office. The secretary of state shall not accept a recall petition for filing if less than six months remain in the term of office. The secretary of state shall endorse the date and time of receipt of such a recall petition, mark

(DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE LEGISLATURE)

Date of Election	March 29	May 3	October 11	November 15
Type of Election	Municipal Primary	Municipal General	Open Primary/Orleans Municipal Parochial Primary	Open General/Orleans Municipal Parochial General
Deadline: Specials	1/2/2025*	n/a	6/11/2025	n/a
Deadline: Propositions	1/2/2025*	3/10/2025	6/11/2025	9/22/2025
Qualifying Dates	1/29/2025 - 1/31/2025	n/a	7/9/2025 - 7/11/2025	n/a
In Person/By Mail Registration Deadline	2/26/2025	4/2/2025	9/10/2025	10/15/2025
Geaux Vote Online Registration Deadline	3/8/2025	4/12/2025	9/20/2025	10/25/2025
Deadline to Request a Mail Ballot from Registrar (other than Military and Overseas)	3/25/2025	4/29/2025	10/7/2025	11/12/2025**
Deadline for Registrar to Receive Voted Mail Ballot (other than Military and Overseas)	3/28/2025	5/2/2025	10/10/2025	11/14/2025
Early Voting Begins	3/15/2025	4/19/2025	9/27/2025	11/1/2025
Early Voting Ends	3/22/2025	4/26/2025	10/4/2025	11/8/2025

IMPORTANT NOTES

* Deadline advanced one day due to the state observed holiday for New Year's Day.

** Deadline advanced one day due to the state observed holiday for Veterans Day.

(DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE LEGISLATURE)

Date of Election	April 18	May 30	November 3	December 12
Type of Election	Party Primary/ Municipal Primary	2 nd Party Primary/ Municipal General	Congressional General/ Open Primary	Open General
1 st Day to Obtain Signature for Nominating Petitions+	9/16/2025	n/a	3/31/2026	n/a
Deadline: Submit Nominating Petitions to Registrar of Voters+	12/17/2025	n/a	7/1/2026	n/a
Deadline: Specials	12/17/2025	n/a	7/1/2026	n/a
Deadline: Propositions	12/17/2025	3/30/2026	7/1/2026	10/12/2026
Qualifying Dates	1/14/2026 - 1/16/2026	n/a	7/29/2026 - 7/31/2026	n/a
In Person/By Mail Registration Deadline	3/18/2026	4/29/2026	10/5/2026	11/12/2026
Geaux Vote Online Registration Deadline	3/28/2026	5/9/2026	10/13/2026	11/21/2026
Deadline to Request a Mail Ballot from Registrar (other than Military and Overseas)	4/14/2026	5/26/2026	10/30/2026	12/8/2026
Deadline for Registrar to Receive Voted Mail Ballot (other than Military and Overseas)	4/17/2026	5/29/2026	11/2/2026	12/11/2026
Early Voting Begins	4/4/2026	5/16/2026	10/20/2026	11/28/2026
Early Voting Ends	4/11/2026	5/23/2026	10/27/2026	12/5/2026

IMPORTANT NOTES

All dates for the 2026 calendar year have been adjusted per Act 640 of the 2024 regular legislative session.

+ Per Acts 1 of the 2024 First Extraordinary Legislative Session and 640 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session, starting in 2026, only Democratic and Republican party candidates can qualify by paying the fee for party primary elections. All other parties and non-affiliated candidates must qualify via nominating petition by the deadline for the Party Primary Election.

Revised 11/2024

(DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE LEGISLATURE)

Date of Election	April 17	May 29	October 9^	November 20^
Type of Election	BESE Party Primary/ Municipal Primary	BESE 2 nd Party Primary/ Municipal General	Gubernatorial Primary/ BESE General	Gubernatorial General
1 st Day to Obtain Signature for Nominating Petitions+	9/15/2026	n/a	4/5/2027	n/a
Deadline: Submit Nominating Petitions to Registrar of Voters+	12/16/2026	n/a	7/6/2027	n/a
Deadline: Specials	12/16/2026	n/a	7/6/2027	n/a
Deadline: Propositions	12/16/2026	3/29/2027	7/6/2027	9/20/2027
Qualifying Dates	1/13/2027 - 1/15/2027	n/a	8/3/2027 - 8/5/2027	n/a
In Person/By Mail Registration Deadline	3/17/2027	4/28/2027	9/8/2027	10/20/2027
Geaux Vote Online Registration Deadline	3/27/2027	5/8/2027	9/18/2027	10/30/2027
Deadline to Request a Mail Ballot from Registrar (other than Military and Overseas)	4/13/2027	5/25/2027	10/5/2027	11/16/2027
Deadline for Registrar to Receive Voted Mail Ballot (other than Military and Overseas)	4/16/2027	5/28/2027	10/8/2027	11/19/2027
Early Voting Begins	4/3/2027	5/15/2027	9/25/2027	11/5/2027*
Early Voting Ends	4/10/2027	5/22/2027	10/2/2027	11/13/2027

IMPORTANT NOTES

All dates for the 2027 calendar year have been adjusted per Act 640 of the 2024 regular legislative session.

^ Election dates advanced one week in accordance with R.S. 18:402

* Early voting advanced one day due to the state observed holiday for Veteran's Day.

+ All candidates for closed party primary offices who are not affiliated with the Democratic or Republican parties must qualify via nominating petition by the deadline for the Party Primary Election. (Act 1 of the 2024 First Extraordinary Legislative Session and Act 640 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session)

(DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE LEGISLATURE)

Date of Election	March 25	May 6	November 7	December 16
Type of Election	Presidential Preference Primary/ Party Primary/Municipal Primary	2 nd Party Primary/Municipal General	Presidential/Congressional General/Open Primary	Open General
1 st Day to Obtain Signature for Nominating Petitions+	8/17/2027	n/a	3/28/2028	n/a
Deadline: Submit Nominating Petitions to Registrar of Voters+	11/17/2027	n/a	6/28/2028	n/a
Deadline: Specials	11/17/2027	n/a	6/28/2028	n/a
Deadline: Propositions	11/17/2027	3/6/2028	6/28/2028	10/16/2028
Qualifying Dates	12/15/2027 - 12/17/2027	n/a	7/26/2028 - 7/28/2028	n/a
In Person/By Mail Registration Deadline	2/23/2028	4/5/2028	10/10/2028*	11/15/2028
Geaux Vote Online Registration Deadline	3/4/2028	4/15/2028	10/17/2028	11/25/2028
Deadline to Request a Mail Ballot from Registrar (other than Military and Overseas)	3/21/2028	5/2/2028	11/3/2028	12/12/2028
Deadline for Registrar to Receive Voted Mail Ballot (other than Military and Overseas)	3/24/2028	5/5/2028	11/6/2028	12/15/2028
Early Voting Begins	3/11/2028	4/22/2028	10/20/2028**	12/2/2028
Early Voting Ends	3/18/2028	4/29/2028	10/31/2028	12/9/2028

IMPORTANT NOTES

All dates for the 2028 calendar year have been adjusted per Act 640 of the 2024 regular legislative session.

*In Person/By Mail Registration Deadline advanced one day due to Columbus Day (national postal holiday).

**Early voting extended in accordance with R.S. 18:1309(Å)(1)(a)(i)

+ All candidates for closed party primary offices who are not affiliated with the Democratic or Republican parties must qualify via nominating petition by the deadline for the Party Primary Election.(Act 1 of the 2024 First Extraordinary Legislative Session and Act 640 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session)

PRESIDENTIAL QUALIFYING

3/25/2028 Presidential Preference Primary: Democratic/Independent/Republican presidential nominees - Qualifying period begins 12/15/2027, ends 12/17/2027.

11/7/2028 Presidential Election:

• Recognized political party candidates are certified to SOS by state central committee prior to 4:30 p.m. on 8/15/2028. If not timely certified by state central committee, then national chairman of Democratic/Republican Party certifies presidential candidates to SOS prior to 4:30 p.m. on 8/18/2028.

• Other presidential candidates - Qualifying period begins 7/18/2028, ends 4:30 p.m. 8/18/2028.

FOLEY & JUDELL, L.L.P.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW

ONE CANAL PLACE SUITE 2600 365 CANAL STREET NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130-1138 (504) 568-1249 * FAX (504) 565-3900

February 16, 2024

BATON ROUGE OFFICE ONE AMERICAN PLACE SUITE 1040, 301 MAIN STREET BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70801 TELEPHONE (225) 923-2476 FAX (225) 923-2477

> DUDLEY C. FOLEY, JR. (1910-2006) LONNIE L. BEWLEY (1932-2009) HAROLD B. JUDELL (1915-2011) WILLIAM H. BECK, JR. (1928-2016)

> > 24,847

SECRETARY OF STATE

FEB 1 9 2024

ELECTIONS

Re: <u>Millage Election</u> (Saturday, April 27, 2024) for Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana

Hon. Registrar of Voters.

Pointe Coupce Parish

New Roads, Louisiana

We are enclosing on behalf of the governing authority of Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "District"), a certified copy of a resolution adopted on January 8, 2024, submitting to all qualified electors of the District the proposition described in the said resolution. The election is to be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, in accordance with the general election laws of the State of Louisiana, and all qualified electors will be entitled to vote.

We would appreciate the Secretary of State furnishing our office several copies of the sample ballot in compliance with the enclosed resolution prior to the election.

If the Registrar of Voters has not been previously contacted regarding this election, this is to advise that it will be necessary for you to furnish the precinct registers for use on election day.

The Pointe Coupee Parish Clerk of Court should note that the enclosed is being furnished to them in accordance with R.S. 18:1285(B)(1)(a); however, the resolution is not to be recorded.

The officials of the District would also appreciate each of the foregoing addressees taking such action as is required by their respective offices in order that the election may be held as ordered in the enclosed resolution.

Our firm is assisting the District with the holding of this election. Therefore, in the event that you have any questions or if we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Very truly yours, alon L. Koren m

ALO/mm enclosures cc: Mr. Nicholas Victorian, Chairman Ms. Mellisa Smith, Secretary Pointe Coupee FPD No. 5 611 Pennsylvania Avenue New Roads, Louisiana 70760 Mr. Pedro P. Leonard, Fire Chief

OUR FILE NO:

ion. Secretary of State Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Hon. Clerk of Court Pointe Coupee Parish New Roads, Louisiana The following resolution was offered by Charles Landry and seconded by Larry Harlaux:

RESOLUTION

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein, making application to the State Bond Commission, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Pointe Coupee Fire Districts Board of Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "District"), that:

SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission and the Pointe Coupee Parish Council, and under the authority conferred by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, including Article VI, Section 30 thereof, the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the District on SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (MILLAGE)

Shall Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "District") be authorized to levy and collect a special tax of 3 mills (an estimated \$499,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year) on all the property subject to taxation in the District for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2024 and ending with the year 2033, for the purpose of maintaining and operating the District's fire protection facilities, for purchasing fire trucks and other fire fighting equipment and emergency rescue equipment; paying the cost of obtaining water for fire protection purposes, including charges for fire hydrant rentals and service; and paying the cost of acquiring fire protection facilities of the District, including specialized rescue tools and life saving equipment, all constituting works of public improvement, and funding salaries and benefits of full time firefighters?

SECTION 2. <u>Publication of Notice of Election</u>. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in the official journal of the District once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Election, the Chairman is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing proposition that may be required to comply with any state or federal regulatory agencies.

SECTION 3. <u>Canvass</u>. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the Parish Council Meeting Room, 160 E. Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana, on **MONDAY**, **MAY 6**, 2024, at **SIX O'CLOCK (6:00)** P.M., and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 4. <u>Polling Places</u>. The polling places for the precincts set forth in the aforesaid Notice of Special Election are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. <u>Election Commissioners; Voting Machines</u>. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the District will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. <u>Authorization of Officers</u>. The Secretary of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the Chairman and/or Secretary of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

SECTION 7. <u>Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials</u>. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of Pointe Coupee Parish and the Registrar of Voters of Pointe Coupee Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. <u>Application to State Bond Commission</u>. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

SECTION 9. <u>Approval of Governing Authority of the Parish</u>. Application is hereby made to the Pointe Coupee Parish Council for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event the election carries, for its further consent and authority to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Parish Council of the Parish of Pointe Coupee on behalf of the District, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Robert Allen, Larry Harlaux, Charles Landry and Nicholas Victorian

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Martin Frey

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 8th day of January, 2024.

Million Secretary

Vice-Chairman

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Pointe Coupee Fire Districts Board of Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana, on January 8, 2024, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the District on SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the District qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (MILLAGE)

Shall Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "District") be authorized to levy and collect a special tax of 3 mills (an estimated \$499,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year) on all the property subject to taxation in the District for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2024 and ending with the year 2033, for the purpose of maintaining and operating the District's fire protection facilities, for purchasing fire trucks and other fire fighting equipment and emergency rescue equipment; paying the cost of obtaining water for fire protection purposes, including charges for fire hydrant rentals and service; and paying the cost of acquiring fire protection facilities of the District, including specialized rescue tools and life saving equipment, all constituting works of public improvement, and funding salaries and benefits of full time firefighters?

The said special election shall be held at the polling places for the following precincts, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, to-wit:

PRECINCTS
07
07A
08
08A
09
09A
10
11
12
16(PART)
17(PART)
17A(PART)
18
19
20

The polling places for the precincts set forth above are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is \$30,000.

Notice is further given that a portion of the monies collected from the tax described in the Proposition shall be remitted to certain state and statewide retirement systems in the manner required by law.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the Parish Council Meeting Room, 160 E. Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana, on MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024, at SIX O'CLOCK (6:00) P.M., and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election. All registered voters of the District are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

A-2

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF POINTE COUPEE

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Pointe Coupee Fire Districts Board of Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), the governing authority of Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "District"), do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of the proceedings taken by the Governing Authority on January 8, 2024, ordering and calling a special election to be held in Fire Protection District No. 5 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein, making application to the State Bond Commission, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature at New Roads, Louisiana, on this, the 8th day of January, 2024.

Million -Secretary

SECRETARY OF STATE

P.O. Box 94125 • Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125 8585 Archives Ave. • Baton Rouge, LA 70809 225.922.2880 • 800.883.2805 <u>www.sos.la.gov</u>