

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT REPORT
R.S. 49:968(K)
CALENDAR YEAR 2012
EMERGENCY ELECTION DAY PAPER BALLOT PROCEDURES
(LAC 31:I.CHAPTER 11)

Prior to the 2010 census, all precincts in Louisiana had a minimum of two voting machines in each precinct. If one voting machine became inoperable, voters were still capable of voting on the other voting machine in the precinct. As a result of reapportionment, Louisiana now has many split precincts where only one voting machine is available for drayage and placement in the polling place for election day. The Department of State needed to address paper ballot procedures for the fall 2012 elections for all precincts in the state that have only one voting machine in the event that the voting machine in the precinct becomes inoperable on election day. On September 17, 2012, the Secretary of State issued a Declaration of Emergency so that procedures would be in place for the fall 2012 election. The Declaration of Emergency was published in the October 20, 2012 issue of the Louisiana Register.

In preparation of the fall 2012 elections, paper ballots and all applicable supplies were printed and placed in the lead voting machine in the precincts with only one voting machine. Neither the Secretary of State nor his designee had to initiate the emergency provisions of the Declaration of Emergency for the fall 2012 elections.

The Department of State waited until after the fall 2012 elections to determine if any changes would need to be incorporated into the Notice of Intent. The Department decided to publish the Notice of Intent using the language contained in the Declaration of Emergency. On December 20, 2012, the Secretary of State published a notice of his intent to adopt the Emergency Election Day Paper Ballot Procedures in the Louisiana Register. A public hearing was scheduled for January 29, 2013. The anticipated date for the final Rule to be published in the Louisiana Register is March 20, 2013.