


EMERGENCY CERTIFICATION

- WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:401.1 authorizes the Secretary of State to certify to the Governor that a state of emergency exists that would affect the electoral process.
- WHEREAS, Governor John Bel Edwards signed Proclamation Number 165 JBE 2021 on August 26, 2021 declaring a state of emergency in the State of Louisiana as a result of the imminent threat of emergency conditions threatening the lives and property of the citizens of the State due to Tropical Storm Ida projected to make landfall in Louisiana on August 29 or August 30, 2021, bringing with it life threatening storm surge, damaging hurricane force winds, and heavy rainfall, such that the State of Louisiana could potentially experience severe damage that threatens the safety, health and security of the citizens of Louisiana, along with damage to private property and public facilities.
- WHEREAS, the state of emergency declared in Proclamation Number 165 JBE 2021 became effective August 26, 2021 to September 27, 2021, unless terminated sooner.
- WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Ida became a major hurricane and made landfall in Louisiana on the Louisiana coast on August 29, 2021, bringing with it devastating winds, widespread power outages, and severe damage to Louisiana.
- WHEREAS, by Proclamation Number 166 JBE 2021 signed on August 27, 2021 which became effective on August 26, 2021 to September 24, 2021, or as extended by any subsequent Proclamation, unless terminated sooner, amended the State of Emergency issued in Proclamation Number 165 JBE 2021, due to the formation of Hurricane Ida.
- WHEREAS, the damage from Hurricane Ida posed a threat to citizens and communities in the storm's path and would create conditions which place lives and property in the state in jeopardy. Proclamation Number 166 JBE 2021 suspended certain rules and regulations for the procurement of any goods or services necessary to respond to the emergency;

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



State of Louisiana

R. Kyle Ardoin
SECRETARY OF STATE

WHEREAS, by Proclamation Number 170 JBE 2021 signed on September 6, 2021, the Governor further amended the State of Emergency declaration caused by Hurricane Ida to be effective from August 26, 2021 to September 24, 2021, or as extended by any subsequent Proclamation, unless terminated sooner;

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 29:724 authorizes the Governor during a declared state of emergency to suspend provisions of any state regulatory statute prescribing procedures for conducting state business, or the orders, rules or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provision of any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency;

WHEREAS, Proclamation Number 170 JBE 2021 recognized the significant impact of Hurricane Ida on the State of Louisiana and that the damage resulting from Hurricane Ida posed a threat to citizens and communities in the storm's path and created conditions placing the lives and property in the state in jeopardy. The Proclamation suspended the legal deadlines applicable to legal proceedings in all courts, administrative agencies, and boards until September 24, 2021;


WHEREAS, an election submitting four proposed constitutional amendments to all voters statewide for approval and an election of municipal officers and certain propositions in various parishes is scheduled for October 9, 2021; and the general elections for run-offs for elections for other municipal officers and propositions are scheduled for November 13, 2021;

WHEREAS, the in person or by mail voter registration deadline is September 8, 2021, and the online electronic voter registration deadline is September 18, 2021 for the October 9, 2021 elections;

WHEREAS, the in person or by mail voter registration deadline is October 13, 2021, and the online electronic voter registration deadline is October 23, 2021 for the November 13, 2021 elections;

WHEREAS, early voting for the October 9, 2021 election is set for September 25, 2021 through October 2, 2021, except for Sunday, September 26, 2021, and early voting for the November 13, 2021 election is set for October

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



State of Louisiana

R. Kyle Ardoin
SECRETARY OF STATE

30, 2021 through November 6, 2021, except for Sunday, October 31, 2021;

WHEREAS, the deadline for the parish boards of election supervisors to select election day commissioners is September 10, 2021, and the deadline for the parish boards of election supervisors to select parish board commissioners is October 4, 2021 for the October 9, 2021 elections;

WHEREAS, nursing home voting begins on September 18, 2021 for the October 9, 2021 elections;

WHEREAS, nursing home voting begins on October 23, 2021 for the November 13, 2021 elections;

WHEREAS, the deadline to request absentee by mail ballots for the October 9, 2021 elections is October 5, 2021, except for voters who are military and overseas, sequestered jurors, hospitalized, and nursing home voters;


WHEREAS, the deadline to request absentee by mail ballots for the November 13, 2021 elections is November 9, 2021, except for voters who are military and overseas, sequestered jurors, hospitalized, and nursing home voters;

WHEREAS, the deadline to return voted absentee by mail ballots for the October 9, 2021 elections is October 8, 2021, except for voters who are military and overseas, sequestered jurors and hospitalized;

WHEREAS, the deadline to return voted absentee by mail ballots for the November 13, 2021 elections is November 12, 2021, except for voters who are military and overseas, sequestered jurors and hospitalized;

WHEREAS, due to Hurricane Ida's devastation in the state, numerous election issues, including but not limited to: 1) the location of displaced voters; 2) the displacement of nursing home residents; 3) the lack of and consistency of postal service delivery; 4) extensive power outages; 5) damage to and relocation of early voting and election day polling places; 6) damage to the offices of registrars of voters and clerks of court; 7) displaced election commissioners, registrars of voters staff, clerks of court staff and parish boards of election supervisors members; and 8) the ability to publish notices required by law, would make holding the elections currently scheduled for October 9, 2021 and

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



State of Louisiana

R. Kyle Ardoin
SECRETARY OF STATE

November 13, 2021 impossible and would impair the integrity of the elections.

NOW WHEREFORE,

R. Kyle Ardoin, in his official capacity as Secretary of State, hereby certifies that a state of emergency exists that poses an imminent threat to Louisiana citizens in participating in the October 9, 2021 elections and the currently scheduled November 13, 2021 elections and recommends that a proclamation be issued to:

1) Reschedule the October 9, 2021 elections for November 13, 2021, for the voters to vote on the October 9, 2021 ballot items, including proposed constitutional amendments, municipal offices, and propositions;

2) Reschedule the November 13, 2021 elections for December 11, 2021, for the voters to vote on the November 13, 2021 ballot items, including run-offs for municipal offices and propositions;

3) Reschedule early voting for the October 9, 2021 elections rescheduled to November 13, 2021 for October 30, 2021 through November 6, 2021, except for Sunday, October 31, 2021;

4) Reschedule early voting for the November 13, 2021 elections rescheduled to December 11, 2021 for November 27, 2021 through December 4, 2021, except for Sunday, November 28, 2021;

5) Set the in person or by mail voter registration deadline for October 13, 2021, and the online electronic voter registration deadline for October 23, 2021 for the October 9, 2021 elections rescheduled to November 13, 2021;

6) Set the in person or by mail voter registration deadline for November 10, 2021, and the online electronic voter registration deadline for November 20, 2021 for the November, 13, 2021 elections rescheduled to December 11, 2021;


7) Set the deadline for the parish boards of election supervisors to select election day commissioners for October 15, 2021, and the deadline for the parish boards of election supervisors to select parish board commissioners for November 8, 2021, for the October 9, 2021 elections rescheduled to November 13, 2021;

8) Set nursing home voting to begin on October 23, 2021, for the October 9, 2021 elections rescheduled to November 13, 2021;

9) Set nursing home voting to begin on November 20, 2021, for the November 13, 2021 elections rescheduled to December 11, 2021;

10) Set the deadline to request absentee by mail ballots for November 9, 2021, for the October 9, 2021 elections rescheduled to November 13, 2021, except for voters who are military and overseas, sequestered jurors, hospitalized, and nursing home voters;

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

State of  Louisiana

R. Kyle Ardoin
SECRETARY OF STATE

11) Set the deadline to request absentee by mail ballots for December 7, 2021, for the November 13, 2021 elections rescheduled to December 11, 2021, except for voters who are military and overseas, sequestered jurors, hospitalized, and nursing home voters;

12) Set the deadline to return voted absentee by mail ballots for November 12, 2021, for the October 9, 2021 elections rescheduled to November 13, 2021, except for voters who are military and overseas, sequestered jurors and hospitalized;

13) Set the deadline to return voted absentee by mail ballots for December 10, 2021, for the November 13, 2021 elections rescheduled to December 11, 2021, except for voters who are military and overseas, sequestered jurors and hospitalized;

14) Provide that the deadline for calling special elections and proposition elections for the October 9, 2021 elections rescheduled to November 13, 2021, and the November 13, 2021 elections rescheduled to December 11, 2021, shall not be extended and additional publication of notices of the elections provided in La. R.S. 18:1285(A)(2) is not required.

15) Recognize the authority for the Secretary of State to redesignate all time intervals in the electoral process by any delay or suspension pursuant to La. R.S. 18:401.1(F).

*In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand and caused the Seal of my Office
to be affixed at the City of Baton Rouge on,
September 8, 2021*


Secretary of State

