

Regular Session, 2008

ACT No. 602

HOUSE BILL NO. 987

BY REPRESENTATIVES GALLOT AND BARRAS

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:564(D), relative to assistance in voting; to provide relative
3 to evidence of disability to be presented by a voter in order to be entitled to vote with
4 assistance; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:564(D) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §564. Assistance in voting

8 * * *

9 D.(1)(a) Prior to receiving assistance under this Section, the voter shall file
10 with the registrar in person or by mail a statement setting forth the necessity and
11 reasons for this assistance and shall furnish the registrar one of the following:

12 (i) ~~a~~ A certificate of a medical doctor or optometrist certifying to the
13 irremediable nature of the physical handicap as proof of disability.

14 (ii) A copy of a current mobility-impaired identification card bearing a
15 photograph of the voter and the international symbol of accessibility issued by the
16 secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections as authorized by the
17 provisions of R.S. 47:463.4.

18 (iii) A copy of current proof of disability showing eligibility for social
19 security benefits, veteran's disability benefits, paratransit services, benefits from the
20 office for citizens with developmental disabilities, or benefits from Louisiana
21 Rehabilitation Services.

22 (b) If such statement with such documentation is filed with the registrar as
23 provided in this Paragraph or if a statement is presented to the commissioner-in-
24 charge on election day pursuant to Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, the registrar

1 shall indicate such facts on the voter's original application for registration, on the
2 voting certificate, and on any other official registration records. The registrar shall
3 retain the statement of disability for thirty days after the election. Thereafter, the
4 voter shall not be required to present evidence of any kind at the polls.

5 (2)(a) A voter shall also be entitled to assistance without having filed with
6 the registrar a statement setting forth the necessity and reasons for this assistance if,
7 on election day, the voter presents to the commissioner-in-charge one of the
8 following:

9 (i) a A physician's certificate indicating the voter's inability to vote without
10 assistance because of a physical handicap. ~~or~~

11 (ii) a A current mobility-impaired identification card bearing a photograph
12 of the voter and the international symbol of accessibility issued by the secretary of
13 the Department of Public Safety and Corrections as authorized by the provisions of
14 R.S. 47:463.4.

15 (iii) A copy of current proof of disability showing eligibility for social
16 security benefits, veteran's disability benefits, paratransit services, benefits from the
17 office for citizens with developmental disabilities, or benefits from Louisiana
18 Rehabilitation Services.

19 (b) The commissioner-in-charge shall place any physician's certificate
20 presented by a voter in the envelope marked "Registrar of Voters" and attach the
21 envelope to the precinct register.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____