

RESOLUTION NO. of 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO AUTHORIZE THE AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME FOR VOTING AT POLLING PLACES THAT ARE OPENED LATE OR SUFFER DELAYS FOR UNFORSEEN EMERGENCIES, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, one of the principal purposes of having poll opening and closing times established by statute is to allow citizens sufficient time to cast votes;

WHEREAS, polls are sometimes opened late through no fault of the citizens or voting is delayed by unforeseen emergencies;

WHEREAS, a late opening or delay may cause citizens to miss the opportunity to vote if the polls are not opened for the full number of hours specified by statute; and

WHEREAS, in order for Louisiana citizens to enjoy equal access to the polls, they should stay open for the number of hours specified by statute even if the polls are opened late or voting is delayed by unforeseen emergencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby urge and request the Legislature of the State of Louisiana to take all steps necessary to ensure full participation by the State of Louisiana's citizens in the voting process, including but not limited to passing all necessary laws and regulations to extend the time for voting at polls that are opened late or where voting is delayed due to unforeseen emergencies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Parish's state legislative delegation and the Louisiana Secretary of State's Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved as to legal form:

Parish Attorney

Date