

By: Crockett

H.B. No. 198

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to depository boxes for ballots to be voted by mail.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 86.006, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-2) to read as follows:

(a) A marked ballot voted under this chapter must be returned to the early voting clerk in the official carrier envelope. The carrier envelope may be delivered in another envelope and must be transported and delivered only by:

(1) mail;

(2) common or contract carrier; ~~or~~

(3) subject to Subsection (a-1), in-person delivery by the voter who voted the ballot; or

(4) subject to Subsection (a-2), delivery to an authorized depository box.

(a-2) The voter may deliver a sealed carrier envelope containing a marked ballot to any depository box authorized by the early voting clerk. The early voting clerk may authorize any number of suitable locations for placement of a depository box.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.