

By: Menéndez, et al.

S.B. No. 62

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the voter registration of naturalized United States  
3 citizens.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 13.002(a), Election Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (a) Except as provided by Section 13.009, a [A] person  
8 desiring to register to vote must submit an application to the  
9 registrar of the county in which the person resides. Except as  
10 provided by Subsection (e), an application must be submitted by  
11 personal delivery, by mail, or by telephonic facsimile machine in  
12 accordance with Sections 13.143(d) and (d-2).

13 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 13, Election Code, is  
14 amended by adding Section 13.009 to read as follows:

15 Sec. 13.009. VOTER REGISTRATION OF NATURALIZED CITIZEN.

16 (a) The voter registrar of each county shall automatically  
17 register a resident of the county who is eligible to vote as  
18 provided by Section 13.001 on issuance of a certificate of  
19 naturalization by the United States Citizenship and Immigration  
20 Services.

21 (b) For the purposes of Subsection (a), the Department of  
22 Public Safety may, in cooperation with the United States  
23 Citizenship and Immigration Services, establish a procedure by  
24 which the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

1 notifies the department when a person lawfully present in this  
2 state is issued a certificate of naturalization.

3 (c) A procedure established under Subsection (b) must  
4 require the Department of Public Safety to provide the information  
5 received from the United States Citizenship and Immigration  
6 Services to the appropriate county registrar.

7 (d) If the United States Citizenship and Immigration  
8 Services fails to notify the Department of Public Safety that a  
9 person lawfully present in this state has been issued a certificate  
10 of naturalization, the newly naturalized citizen may present the  
11 certificate of naturalization to the appropriate county registrar  
12 in satisfaction of Sections 13.002(c)(3) and (8). The registrar  
13 shall assist the person in registering to vote.

14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the  
15 last day of the legislative session.