

By: Clardy

H.B. No. 2149

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to temporary branch polling places.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 85.064, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 85.064. DAYS AND HOURS FOR VOTING: TEMPORARY BRANCH IN POPULOUS COUNTY.

SECTION 2. Section 85.064, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a) to read as follows:

(a) This section applies only to an election in which the territory served by the early voting clerk is situated in a county with a population of 100,000 or more. In an election in which the territory served by the clerk is situated in more than one county, this section applies if the sum of the populations of the counties is 100,000 or more.

SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 85, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 85.065 to read as follows:

Sec. 85.065. DAYS AND HOURS FOR VOTING: TEMPORARY BRANCH IN LESS POPULOUS COUNTY. (a) This section applies only to an election in which the territory served by the early voting clerk is situated in a county with a population under 100,000. In an election in which the territory served by the clerk is situated in more than one county, this section applies if the sum of the populations of the counties is under 100,000.

1 (b) Voting at a temporary branch polling place may be
2 conducted on any one or more days and during any hours of the period
3 for early voting by personal appearance, as determined by the
4 authority establishing the branch. The authority authorized under
5 Section 85.006 to order early voting on a Saturday or Sunday may
6 also order, in the manner prescribed by that section, early voting
7 to be conducted on a Saturday or Sunday at any one or more of the
8 temporary branch polling places.

9 (c) The schedules for conducting voting are not required to
10 be uniform among the temporary branch polling places.

11 SECTION 4. Section 85.068(a), Election Code, is amended to
12 read as follows:

13 (a) The early voting clerk shall post notice for each
14 election stating any dates and the hours that voting on Saturday or
15 Sunday will be conducted under Section 85.064(d) or 85.065(b), if
16 the early voting clerk is a county clerk or city secretary under
17 Section 83.002 or 83.005.

18 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.