

By: Cortez

H.B. No. 315

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a statement by the secretary of state regarding the
furnishing of certain personal information on an application for a
ballot to be voted by mail.

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

SECTION 1. Section [84.011](#), Election Code, is amended by
amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
follows:

(a) The officially prescribed application form for an early
voting ballot must include:

(1) immediately preceding the signature space the
statement: "I certify that the information given in this
application is true, and I understand that giving false information
in this application is a crime.";

(2) a statement informing the applicant of the
offenses prescribed by Sections [84.003](#) and [84.004](#);

(3) spaces for entering an applicant's voter
registration number and county election precinct of registration,
with a statement informing the applicant that failure to furnish
that information does not invalidate the application;

(3-a) a space for entering the information required
under Section [84.002](#)(a)(1-a); and

(4) on an application for a ballot to be voted by mail:

(A) a space for an applicant applying on the

1 ground of absence from the county of residence to indicate the date
2 on or after which the applicant can receive mail at the address
3 outside the county;

4 (B) a space for indicating the fact that an
5 applicant whose application is signed by a witness cannot make the
6 applicant's mark and a space for indicating the relationship or
7 lack of relationship of the witness to the applicant;

8 (C) a space for entering an applicant's telephone
9 number, with:

10 (i) a statement informing the applicant
11 that failure to furnish that information does not invalidate the
12 application; and

13 (ii) a statement prescribed by the
14 secretary of state explaining the benefits of furnishing that
15 information, including how that information assists the early
16 voting clerk;

17 (D) a space or box for an applicant applying on
18 the ground of age or disability to indicate that the address to
19 which the ballot is to be mailed is the address of a facility or
20 relative described by Section 84.002(a)(3), if applicable;

21 (E) a space or box for an applicant applying on
22 the ground of confinement in jail or involuntary civil commitment
23 to indicate that the address to which the ballot is to be mailed is
24 the address of a relative described by Section 84.002(a)(4) or (7),
25 if applicable;

26 (F) a space for an applicant applying on the
27 ground of age or disability to indicate if the application is an

1 application under Section 86.0015;

2 (G) spaces for entering the signature, printed
3 name, and residence address of any person assisting the applicant;

4 (H) a statement informing the applicant of the
5 condition prescribed by Section 81.005; and

6 (I) a statement informing the applicant of the
7 requirement prescribed by Section 86.003(c).

8 (c) The secretary of state shall make the statement
9 prescribed by Subsection (a)(4)(C)(ii) available on the
10 secretary's Internet website.

11 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.