

By: Jetton

H.B. No. 2810

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the form, content, and delivery of a voter registration certificate.

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

SECTION 1. Section 13.144(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) If delivery is by mail, the registrar shall:

(1) send the certificate by first class mail in a carrier envelope addressed to the mailing address on the applicant's registration application; and

(2) include with the certificate a return envelope, properly addressed with postage paid.

SECTION 2. Sections 14.002(a) and (b), Election Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (d), the registrar shall:

(1) deliver a voter's renewal certificate by first class mail in a carrier envelope addressed to the mailing address on the voter's registration application; and

(2) include with the certificate a return envelope, properly addressed with postage paid.

(b) The [~~certificate, if mailed without an envelope, or the~~] envelope containing the certificate must contain an instruction to the postal authorities not to forward it to any other address and to

1 return it to the registrar if the addressee is no longer at the
2 address to which the certificate was mailed.

3 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 15.001, Election Code, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Sec. 15.001. REQUIRED FORM AND CONTENTS.

6 SECTION 4. Section 15.001, Election Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as
8 follows:

9 (a) Each voter registration certificate issued must
10 contain:

11 (1) the voter's name in the form indicated by the
12 voter, subject to applicable requirements prescribed by Section
13 13.002 and by rule of the secretary of state;

14 (2) the voter's residence address or, if the residence
15 has no address, the address at which the voter receives mail and a
16 concise description of the location of the voter's residence;

17 (3) the year of the voter's birth;

18 (4) the number of the county election precinct in
19 which the voter resides;

20 (5) the voter's effective date of registration if an
21 initial certificate;

22 (6) the voter's registration number;

23 (7) an indication of the period for which the
24 certificate is issued;

25 (8) a statement explaining the circumstances under
26 which the voter will receive a new certificate;

27 (9) a space for stamping the voter's political party

1 affiliation;

2 (10) a statement that voting with the certificate by a
3 person other than the person in whose name the certificate is issued
4 is a felony;

5 (11) a space for the voter's signature;

6 (12) a statement that the voter must sign the
7 certificate personally, if able to sign, immediately on receipt;

8 (13) a space for the voter to correct the information
9 on the certificate and a printed box for a person to check to
10 indicate that the voter is deceased followed by a signature line;

11 (14) in all capital letters, the statement: "IF ANY
12 INFORMATION ON THIS CERTIFICATE CHANGES OR IS INCORRECT, INCLUDING
13 THE ADDRESS OF THE VOTER, CORRECT THE INFORMATION IN THE SPACE
14 PROVIDED, SIGN BELOW, AND RETURN THIS CERTIFICATE TO THE VOTER
15 REGISTRAR. IF THE VOTER HAS DIED, CHECK THE BOX INDICATING THE VOTER
16 IS DECEASED, SIGN BELOW, AND RETURN THIS CERTIFICATE TO THE
17 REGISTRAR [~~If any information on this certificate changes or is~~
18 ~~incorrect, correct the information in the space provided, sign~~
19 ~~below, and return this certificate to the voter registrar].";~~

20 (15) the registrar's mailing address and telephone
21 number; and

22 (16) the jurisdictional or distinguishing number for
23 the following territorial units in which the voter resides, as
24 determined by the voter registrar:

25 (A) congressional district;

26 (B) state senatorial district;

27 (C) state representative district;

- (D) commissioners precinct;
- (E) justice precinct;
- (F) city election precinct; and
- (G) school district election precinct.

(a-1) Each voter registration certificate issued shall measure at least 5 by 8-1/2 inches in size.

SECTION 5. Section 16.031(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The registrar shall cancel a voter's registration immediately if the registrar:

(1) determines ~~[from information received under Section 16.001(c)]~~ that the voter is deceased from information received:

(A) under Section 16.001(c); or

(B) on a voter registration certificate returned to the registrar with the printed box checked indicating the voter has died;

(2) has personal knowledge that the voter is deceased;

(3) receives from a person related within the second degree by consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, to the voter a sworn statement by that person indicating that the voter is deceased; or

(4) receives notice from the secretary of state under Section 18.068 that the voter is deceased.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.