

By: Noble

H.B. No. 3450

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to county election precincts.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 42.006(a) and (b), Election Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this section, a county election precinct must contain at least 500 ~~[100]~~ but not more than 10,000 ~~[5,000]~~ registered voters.

(b) For an election precinct in a county with a population under 100,000, the maximum number of registered voters the precinct may contain is 5,000, and the minimum number of registered voters the precinct may contain is 50, except as provided by Subsection (c).

SECTION 2. Section 42.031, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 42.031. REVIEWING PRECINCTS FOR COMPLIANCE: BOUNDARY CHANGES. (a) Not later than September 15 ~~[During March or April]~~ of each odd-numbered year, each commissioners court shall:

(1) determine whether the county election precincts comply with the requirements of this chapter; and

(2) ~~[Sections 42.005, 42.006, and 42.007. The commissioners court may make that determination during March or April of an even-numbered year. Before May 1 of the year in which the determination is made, the commissioners court shall]~~ order the

1 boundary changes necessary for compliance.

2 (b) The commissioners court may order a boundary change at
3 any time if [~~only during March or April unless~~] the change is
4 necessary to:

5 (1) comply with Section 42.005 or 42.032;

6 (2) reduce the number of registered voters in a
7 precinct so it does not exceed the maximum number permitted by
8 Section 42.006; or

9 (3) include within a precinct a suitable building
10 available for use as a polling place if no suitable building is
11 available for that purpose within the existing precinct boundary.

12 SECTION 3. Section 42.007, Election Code, is repealed.

13 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.