

By: Bettencourt

S.B. No. 1946

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to personal information entered on the carrier envelope of a ballot to be voted by mail.

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

SECTION 1. Section 86.002, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d-1) and amending Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(d-1) The secretary of state shall prescribe instructions to be printed on the balloting materials for marking the ballot envelope with the information required under Subsection (g). The instructions must:

(1) be printed in at least a 10-point font;

(2) except as provided by Subdivision (3), not include the text "V.U.I.D." or the words "voter registration number"; and

(3) contain the statement: "A voter registration certificate is not the same thing as an election identification certificate. An election identification certificate is a photo identification issued by the Department of Public Safety and contains a unique number that is different from the voter registration number contained in the voter registration certificate. A voter registration number (V.U.I.D.) does not satisfy the requirement to enter the number of an election identification certificate and should not be printed on the carrier envelope."

1 (g) The carrier envelope must include a space, at least one
2 half inch in height and two inches in width, that is hidden from
3 view when the envelope is sealed for the voter to enter the
4 following information:

5 (1) the number of the voter's driver's license,
6 election identification certificate, or personal identification
7 card issued by the Department of Public Safety;

8 (2) if the voter has not been issued a number described
9 by Subdivision (1), the last four digits of the voter's social
10 security number; or

11 (3) a statement by the applicant that the applicant
12 has not been issued a number described by Subdivision (1) or (2).

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