By: Olcott H.B. No. 275

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

- 2 relating to increasing the threshold of voter approval for a school
- 3 district bond election.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Section 45.003, Education Code, is amended by
- 6 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1) and (a-2) to
- 7 read as follows:
- 8 (a) Bonds described by Section 45.001 may not be issued and
- 9 taxes described by that section [Section 45.001 or 45.002] may not
- 10 be levied unless authorized by three-fifths [a majority] of the
- 11 qualified voters of the district, voting at an election held for
- 12 that purpose, at the expense of the district, in accordance with the
- 13 Election Code, except as provided by this section.
- 14 (a-1) Taxes described by Section 45.002 may not be levied
- 15 unless authorized by a majority of the qualified voters of the
- 16 district, voting at an election held for that purpose, at the
- 17 expense of the district, in accordance with the Election Code,
- 18 except as provided by this section.
- 19 <u>(a-2)</u> Each election <u>described by Subsection (a) or (a-1)</u>
- 20 must be called by resolution or order of the governing board or
- 21 commissioners court. The resolution or order must state the date of
- 22 the election, the proposition or propositions to be submitted and
- 23 voted on, the polling place or places, and any other matters
- 24 considered necessary or advisable by the governing board or

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- 1 commissioners court.
- 2 SECTION 2. Section 45.003(a), Education Code, as amended by
- 3 this Act, applies only to an election ordered on or after the
- 4 effective date of this Act. An election ordered before the
- 5 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the
- 6 election was ordered, and the former law is continued in effect for
- 7 that purpose.
- 8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2027, but only
- 9 if the constitutional amendment proposed by the 89th Legislature,
- 10 2nd Called Session, 2025, increasing the threshold of voter
- 11 approval for a school district bond election is approved by the
- 12 voters. If that amendment is not approved by the voters, this Act
- 13 has no effect.