

By: Landgraf

H.B. No. 219

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a person submitting proof of citizenship to verify eligibility to vote in Texas.

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

SECTION 1. Section 13.002, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1) and (a-2) to read as follows:

(a) A person desiring to register to vote must submit an application and proof of citizenship as required under Subsection (a-1) to the registrar of the county in which the person resides. Except as provided by Subsection (e), an application must be submitted by personal delivery, by mail, or by telephonic facsimile machine in accordance with Sections 13.143(d) and (d-2).

(a-1) An applicant submitting a registration application must present proof that the applicant is a United States citizen to:

(1) the registrar, if the application is submitted by personal delivery; or

(2) a Department of Public Safety employee at the department's office, if the application is submitted by mail or by telephonic facsimile machine.

(a-2) For purposes of Subsection (a-1), the applicant shall present any of the following:

(1) the applicant's Texas driver's license that is compliant with the federal REAL ID program;

1 (2) the applicant's Texas identification card that is
2 compliant with the federal REAL ID program;

3 (3) an original or certified copy of the applicant's
4 birth certificate;

5 (4) the applicant's unexpired United States passport
6 or card;

7 (5) the applicant's certificate of naturalization
8 issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services;
9 or

10 (6) the applicant's certificate of citizenship issued
11 by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

12 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 13, Election Code, is
13 amended by adding Section 13.0022 to read as follows:

14 Sec. 13.0022. NOTICE TO PRESENT PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP FOR
15 APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY MAIL OR BY TELEPHONIC FACSIMILE MACHINE.

16 (a) This section applies only to a registration application
17 submitted by mail or by telephonic facsimile machine that does not
18 include proof that the applicant is a United States citizen.

19 (b) On receipt of a registration application, the registrar
20 shall transmit a notice to the applicant of the requirements of
21 Section 13.002 (a-1) and Section 13.002 (a-2) and include
22 instructions to enable the applicant to satisfy those requirements.

23 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
24 to an application for voter registration submitted on or after the
25 effective date of this Act. An application for voter registration
26 submitted before the effective date of this Act is governed by the
27 law in effect when the application was submitted, and the former law

1 is continued in effect for that purpose.

2 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.