

By: Vasut

H.B. No. 1661

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to election supplies and the conduct of elections;  
creating criminal offenses; increasing criminal penalties.

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

SECTION 1. Section 51.005, Election Code, is amended by  
amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1) and (d) to  
read as follows:

(a) The authority responsible for procuring the election  
supplies for an election shall provide for each election precinct a  
number of ballots equal to at least the percentage of voters who  
voted in that precinct in the most recent corresponding election  
plus 25 percent of that number.

(a-1) The [ , except that the ] number of ballots provided may  
not exceed the total number of registered voters in the precinct  
unless the county participates in the countywide polling place  
program under Section 43.007.

(d) The authority responsible for procuring the election  
supplies for an election commits an offense if the authority  
intentionally fails to provide an election precinct with the  
required number of ballots under this section. An offense under  
this subsection is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. Section 51.008, Election Code, is amended by  
adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) The authority responsible for procuring the election

1 supplies for an election commits an offense if the authority  
2 intentionally fails to promptly supplement the distributed ballots  
3 upon request by a polling place. An offense under this subsection  
4 is a Class A misdemeanor.

5 SECTION 3. Section 51.010(c), Election Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (c) An offense under this section is a Class A [~~C~~]  
8 misdemeanor.

9 SECTION 4. Section 51.011(b), Election Code, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (b) An offense under this section is a state jail felony  
12 [~~Class C misdemeanor~~].

13 SECTION 5. Section 61.007(b), Election Code, is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (b) An offense under this section is a state jail felony  
16 [~~Class A misdemeanor~~].

17 SECTION 6. The changes in law made by this Act to Sections  
18 51.010, 51.011, and 61.007, Election Code, apply only to an offense  
19 committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense  
20 committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the  
21 law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former  
22 law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this  
23 section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this  
24 Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

25 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.