

By: Reynolds

H.B. No. 5107

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to voter registration.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 12, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 12.007 to read as follows:

Sec. 12.007. CERTAIN ELECTION OFFICERS ARE VOTER REGISTRARS. An election officer serving a polling place for early voting by personal appearance is a deputy voter registrar and has the same authority as a regular deputy registrar.

SECTION 2. Section 13.001(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) To be eligible to apply for registration, a person must, on the date the registration application is submitted to the registrar, be at least 17 years ~~[and 10 months]~~ of age and satisfy the requirements of Subsection (a) except for age.

SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 13, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 13.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 13.009. ELECTRONIC VOTER REGISTRATION. (a) The secretary of state shall, in coordination with the Department of Public Safety, implement a program to allow a person with an unexpired driver's license or personal identification card issued in this state to complete a voter registration application over the Internet from a secure Internet website.

(b) The Internet website established under this section

1 must allow a person to submit:

2 (1) an initial application for registration; and

3 (2) an application to update a voter registration
4 record.

5 (c) When a person submits an application under this section,
6 the secretary of state shall compare the information provided by
7 the applicant against Department of Public Safety records.

8 (d) The completed online application and information from
9 the Department of Public Safety, including the applicant's digital
10 signature, shall be provided to:

11 (1) the county voter registration office for the
12 county where the applicant currently resides; and

13 (2) the secretary of state for the statewide
14 computerized voter registration list under Section 18.061.

15 (e) An application electronically submitted under this
16 section is considered for all purposes as an application submitted
17 by mail under this title. A digital signature given as provided by
18 secretary of state rule meets the signature requirement under
19 Section 13.002(b).

20 (f) The secretary of state shall adopt rules as necessary to
21 implement this section.

22 SECTION 4. Section 13.046, Election Code, is amended by
23 amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsection (d-1) to read as
24 follows:

25 (d) At least twice each school year, a high school deputy
26 registrar shall distribute an officially prescribed registration
27 application form to each student who is or will be 18 years of age or

1 older during that year, subject to rules prescribed by the
2 secretary of state. A high school deputy registrar shall annually
3 submit the number of registration application forms distributed
4 under this section and the number of students whose year of birth
5 was at least 18 years ago to the secretary of state.

6 (d-1) The secretary of state shall publish and maintain on
7 the agency's Internet website a list of high schools to which
8 Subsection (d) applies and indicate whether the school is in
9 compliance with that subsection.

10 SECTION 5. Chapter 62, Election Code, is amended by adding
11 Section 62.0015 to read as follows:

12 Sec. 62.0015. VOTER REGISTRARS MUST BE PRESENT. Two voter
13 registrars must be present at each polling place while the polls are
14 open.

15 SECTION 6. Chapter 63, Election Code, is amended by adding
16 Section 63.010 to read as follows:

17 Sec. 63.010. REGISTRATION AT POLLING PLACE. (a) A person
18 who would be eligible to vote in an election under Section 11.001,
19 but for the requirement to be a registered voter, shall be accepted
20 during voting by personal appearance for voting the ballot for the
21 precinct of the person's residence as shown by the identification
22 presented if, on the day the person offers to vote, the person:

23 (1) submits a voter registration application that
24 complies with Section 13.002 to an election officer at the polling
25 place; and

26 (2) presents as proof of residence a form of photo
27 identification described by Section 63.0101(a) that states the

1 person's current address.

2 (b) The election officer shall return the original proof of
3 residence to the voter.

4 (c) A person voting under this section shall vote a
5 provisional ballot in the manner provided by Section 63.011 except
6 that the person is not required to submit the affidavit under
7 Section 63.011(a).

8 (d) For each registration corresponding to a ballot cast
9 under this section, the voter registrar shall review the
10 application and determine whether the applicant is eligible for
11 registration as provided by Subchapter C, Chapter 13. A
12 registration approved under this subsection takes effect on the
13 date the vote was cast.

14 (e) The secretary of state may by rule:

15 (1) designate additional documents that a person may
16 offer to prove the person's residence to register and vote under
17 this section; and

18 (2) prescribe procedures to implement this section.

19 SECTION 7. Section 65.051(a), Election Code, is amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (a) The early voting ballot board shall verify and count
22 provisional ballots as provided by this subchapter not later than
23 the 10th ~~[ninth]~~ day after the date of an election.

24 SECTION 8. Section 67.003(b), Election Code, is amended to
25 read as follows:

26 (b) Each ~~[Except as provided by Subsection (c), each]~~ local
27 canvassing authority shall convene to conduct the local canvass at

1 the time set by the canvassing authority's presiding officer not
2 later than the 14th [~~11th~~] day after election day and not earlier
3 than the later of:

4 (1) the third day after election day;

5 (2) the date on which the early voting ballot board has
6 verified and counted all provisional ballots, if a provisional
7 ballot has been cast in the election; or

8 (3) the date on which all timely received ballots cast
9 from addresses outside of the United States are counted, if a ballot
10 to be voted by mail in the election was provided to a person outside
11 of the United States.

12 SECTION 9. Section 85.031(a), Election Code, is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 (a) For each person entitled to vote an early voting ballot
15 by personal appearance or entitled to register at a polling place,
16 the early voting clerk shall follow the procedure for accepting or
17 registering a regular voter on election day, with the modifications
18 necessary for the conduct of early voting.

19 SECTION 10. Section 67.003(c), Election Code, is repealed.

20 SECTION 11. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.