

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 1975
By: Deshotel
Elections
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Under current law, the early voting clerk's mailing address is required to be printed or stamped on each application for early voting by mail and on each carrier envelope for a ballot to be voted by mail. In some cases, the mailing address of the early voting clerk is different from the physical address. When this happens, especially when the mailing address is that of a P.O. Box, the application can not be delivered by many common or contract carriers, who do not deliver to P.O. Box addresses. CSHB 1975 requires the physical address of the early voting clerk to be included with the balloting materials.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

CSHB 1975 amends the Election Code by requiring the early voting clerk to include a notice of the clerk's physical address with balloting materials for purposes of return by common or contract carrier.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2003.

COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL TO SUBSTITUTE

CSHB 1975 amends the original by removing the requirement that the early voting clerk's physical address be printed or stamped on each application for early voting by mail and on each official carrier envelope for a ballot to be voted by mail. The substitute adds the provision requiring the physical address to be included on a notice with the balloting materials.