1-1   By: Madden, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Shapiro)   H.B. No. 402
1-2   (In the Senate - Received from the House March 31, 2003;
1-3   April 3, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on State
1-4   Affairs; May 23, 2003, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5   Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 23, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7   AN ACT

1-8   relating to a pilot program involving the use of an electronic
1-9   registration system.
1-10   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-11   SECTION 1. Chapter 63, Election Code, is amended by adding
1-12   Section 63.013 to read as follows:
1-13   Sec. 63.013. (a) The secretary of state shall implement a
1-14   pilot program to evaluate the use of an electronic registration
1-15   system on election day and during the period for early voting by
1-16   personal appearance. The program shall:
1-17   (1) be limited to a single county that chooses to
1-18   participate and has a population of approximately 500,000 people;
1-19   (2) allow for the use of a card with a magnetic stripe
1-20   issued to the voter to confirm the voter's registration instead of
1-21   the registration certificate when the voter appears in person to
1-22   vote; and
1-23   (3) be used in one or more countywide elections as
1-24   determined appropriate by the secretary of state and the county.
1-25   (b) At the conclusion of the pilot program established under
1-26   Subsection (a), but not later than December 31, 2006, the secretary
1-27   of state shall file a report with the governor, the lieutenant
1-28   governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives on the
1-29   pilot program and the use of an electronic registration card. The
1-30   report may contain recommendations on the future use of the card and
1-31   suggestions for permanent statutory authority regarding the use of
1-32   the card.
1-33   (c) This section expires January 1, 2007.
1-34   SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-35   a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-36   provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-37   Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-38   Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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