

By: Madden

H.B. No. 1601

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain regulations and procedures for early voting.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 85.036(a) and (d), Election Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) During [~~Except as provided by Subsection (b), during~~] the time an early voting polling place is open for the conduct of early voting, a person may not electioneer for or against any candidate, measure, or political party in or within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may enter [~~a certain distance from~~] the building or structure in which the early voting polling place is located[, ~~as follows:~~

~~[(1) for a building containing the main early voting polling place, a person may not electioneer in the room in which the polling place is located or within 30 feet of the entrance to the room in which the polling place is located,~~

~~[(2) for a building that is also used as a precinct polling place, a person may not electioneer within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may enter the building in which the polling place is located, and~~

~~[(3) for any other structure, a person may not electioneer within 30 feet of the entrance to the voting area].~~

(d) A person commits an offense if the person electioneers in violation of Subsection (a) [~~or (b)~~].

1 SECTION 2. Section 85.069, Election Code, is amended by
2 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
3 follows:

4 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the [~~The~~]
5 composition of the set of election officers serving a branch
6 polling place must provide representation for each political party
7 conducting a primary election in the county.

8 (c) For the general election for state and county officers
9 and for a special election to fill a vacancy in an office regularly
10 filled at the general election for state and county officers, the
11 composition of the set of election officers serving a branch
12 polling place who are not employees of the county must, to the
13 extent practicable, provide equal representation for each
14 political party conducting a primary election in the county.

15 SECTION 3. Sections 85.036(b) and (f), Election Code, are
16 repealed.

17 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.