

1-1 By: Hinojosa S.B. No. 454
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 12, 2003; February 17, 2003,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental
1-4 Relations; March 13, 2003, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 3, Nays 0; March 13, 2003, sent to printer.)

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

1-8 relating to the uniform election date for certain cities.

1-9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-10 SECTION 1. Section 41.0051, Election Code, is amended to
1-11 read as follows:

1-12 Sec. 41.0051. GENERAL ELECTION IN CERTAIN [~~COASTAL~~] CITIES
1-13 WITH CONFLICTING ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY EVENT. (a) A city may hold
1-14 its [The] general election for officers [of a city that borders the
1-15 Gulf of Mexico, has a population of more than 230,000 according to
1-16 the 1980 census, and held its general election for officers in 1987
1-17 on the first Saturday in April may be held] on any Saturday in April
1-18 in odd-numbered years if:

1-19 (1) the city has regularly held a major community
1-20 event on the first Saturday in May for at least 20 years;

1-21 (2) the city's governing body determines that:

1-22 (A) rescheduling the community event would be
1-23 impractical or undesirable; and

1-24 (B) holding an election on the same day as the
1-25 community event would significantly reduce voter participation
1-26 because of the large number of registered voters participating in
1-27 the community event; and

1-28 (3) for a home-rule city, the city's charter permits
1-29 holding the election in April.

1-30 (b) If the governing body of the city holds an election
1-31 under this section, the election date may be used:

1-32 (1) for any other election of the city; or

1-33 (2) by another political subdivision located wholly or
1-34 partly in the territory of the city to allow for a joint election
1-35 under Chapter 271.

1-36 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-37 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-38 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-39 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-40 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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