

By: Rodriguez

H.B. No. 1414

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the acceptance and counting of certain ballots voted by  
3 mail.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 86.007(d), Election Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (d) A marked ballot voted by mail that arrives after the  
8 time prescribed by Subsection (a) shall be counted if:

9 (1) the ballot was cast from an address outside the  
10 United States;

11 (2) the carrier envelope was placed for delivery  
12 before the time the ballot is required to arrive under Subsection  
13 (a); and

14 (3) the ballot arrives at the address on the carrier  
15 envelope not later than the fifth day after the date of the  
16 election, except that if that date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or  
17 legal state or national holiday, then the deadline is extended to  
18 the next regular business day.

19 SECTION 2. Section 87.125, Election Code, is amended by  
20 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

21 (c) If the date prescribed by Subsection (a) for convening  
22 the early voting ballot board is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal state  
23 or national holiday, the early voting ballot board shall convene on  
24 the next regular business day.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.