

By: Alonzo

H.B. No. 2207

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to allowing a political subdivision to hold a local option
3 election on whether a lawfully admitted resident alien may vote in
4 an election held by the political subdivision.

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

6 SECTION 1. Title 2, Election Code, is amended by adding
7 Chapter 21 to read as follows:

8 CHAPTER 21. VOTING BY RESIDENT ALIEN

9 Sec. 21.001. LOCAL OPTION ELECTION. (a) The governing body
10 of a political subdivision may order an election in the political
11 subdivision on the question of whether a person who is lawfully
12 admitted for permanent residence, as defined by 8 U.S.C. Section
13 1101, may vote in an election held by the political subdivision.

14 (b) At the election, the ballot shall be printed to permit
15 voting for or against the proposition: "Voting by a person lawfully
16 admitted for permanent residence in the United States in an
17 election held by (name of political subdivision)."

18 (c) If a majority of the votes received in the election
19 approve the proposition:

20 (1) a person who meets the qualifications to vote
21 under Section 11.002, excluding United States citizenship, is
22 qualified to vote in an election held by the political subdivision
23 if the person is lawfully admitted for permanent residence; and

24 (2) a person who is eligible to register to vote under

1 Section 13.001, excluding United States citizenship, is eligible to
2 register to vote in an election held by the political subdivision if
3 the person is lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

4 Sec. 21.002. FORMS AND PROCEDURE. (a) The secretary of
5 state shall prescribe the design and content of a:

6 (1) form to apply for registration to vote by a person
7 who is qualified to vote under this chapter; and

8 (2) limited use voter registration certificate for a
9 person who has registered to vote under this chapter.

10 (b) The procedure for the administration of a limited use
11 voter registration certificate issued under this chapter is the
12 same as the procedure for the administration of a voter
13 registration certificate under this title.

14 (c) The secretary of state shall adopt rules for the
15 verification of a person's status at the time a person applies to
16 register to vote under this chapter.

17 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect January 1, 2006, but only
18 if the constitutional amendment proposed by the 79th Legislature,
19 Regular Session, 2005, relating to permitting a lawfully admitted
20 resident alien to vote in an election held by a political
21 subdivision is approved by the voters.