

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 606  
By: Madden  
Elections  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

During previous legislative sessions, various bills have been enacted requiring write-in candidates to declare their participation in an election in order to allow the cancellation of the election if there is/are no competitive race/races on the ballot. These initiatives grant a governmental entity required to administer an election the ability to eliminate the time and expense associated with conducting that election when the outcome is a forgone conclusion based on non-competitive races. To date, anything from a state representative to library district race, including school board, city council, community college and hospital district, county commissioners court and similar county positions, fall under the write-in declaration and election cancellation provisions.

Unfortunately, this cost-saving option is not available to common school districts which generally are small and function under the provisions of Subchapter G, Chapter 11, Education Code. House Bill 606 would allow a common school district to utilize the election cancellation option by enabling a common school district to utilize the same write-in candidate declaration provisions that are provided to every other school district in the state.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 606 amends the Education Code to stipulate that a common school district qualifies for the same write-in candidate provisions accorded regular school districts. The change in law made by this bill applies only to an election for trustees of a common school district that is ordered on or after the effective date of the bill.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

Upon passage, or, if the Act does not receive the necessary vote, the Act takes effect September 1, 2007.