By: Heflin (Senate Sponsor - Duncan)

(In the Senate - Received from the House March 29, 2007;
April 3, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental Relations; May 3, 2007, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 3, 2007, sent to printer.)

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## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to the terms and election of the members of the board of directors of the Stonewall County Hospital District.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 3(a) and (c), Chapter 54, Acts of the 58th Legislature, Regular Session, 1963, are amended to read as follows:

- (a) The district is governed by a board of five directors elected at large by place for staggered three-year terms [Within ten (10) days after such election is held the Commissioners Court in such County shall convene and canvass the returns of the election, and if a majority of the qualified property taxpaying electors voting at said election voted in favor of the proposition, the Court shall so find and declare the Hospital District established and created and appoint five (5) persons as directors of the Hospital District to serve until the first Saturday in April following the creation and establishment of the District at which time five (5) directors shall be elected. The three (3) directors receiving the highest vote at such first election shall serve for two (2) years, the other two (2) directors shall serve for one year. Thereafter, all directors shall serve for a period of two (2) years and until their successor has been duly elected or appointed and qualified]. Each member of the board of directors shall qualify by executing the constitutional oath of office.
- (c) The board of directors shall order a regular election of directors to be held <u>each year</u> on the [<u>first Saturday in</u>] May uniform election date under Section 41.001, Election Code [<u>of each year</u>]. The board of directors shall issue the order <u>in accordance with Chapter 3</u>, Election Code [<u>at least 45 days before the date of the election</u>. The order must state the time, place, and purpose of the election]. The board of directors shall appoint the presiding judge, who shall appoint the assistant judge and the clerks as may be required. Notice of <u>the [such]</u> election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the District <u>in accordance with Section 4.003</u>, Election Code [<u>one (1) time at least ten (10) days prior to the date of election</u>]. Any person desiring that person's name to be printed on the ballot as a candidate for director shall file an application with the secretary of the board of directors of the District <u>in accordance with Section 144.005</u>, Election Code [at least 31 days prior to the date of election].

SECTION 2. (a) The members of the board of directors of the Stonewall County Hospital District serving on the effective date of this Act shall draw lots to determine in which place each director serves. The two directors whose terms expire in 2008 shall draw lots for Places 1 and 2. The three directors whose terms expire in 2009 shall draw lots for Places 3, 4, and 5.

- (b) The election of the board of directors of the district scheduled before the effective date of this Act to be held in May 2008 must be held, and the director elected for Place 1 at that election shall serve a three-year term. The director elected for Place 2 at that election shall serve a two-year term.
- (c) The election of the board of directors scheduled before the effective date of this Act to be held in May 2009 must be held, and the directors elected for Places 3 and 4 at that election shall serve three-year terms. The director elected for Place 5 at that election shall serve a two-year term.
- (d) The directors elected at the elections to be held in May 2010, May 2011, and May 2012 shall serve three-year terms.

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SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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