

By: Pena

H.B. No. 2036

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of countywide voting locations by certain counties.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 43, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 43.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 43.009. COUNTYWIDE POLLING PLACE. (a) A commissioners court may provide for a voter who resides in the county to vote at any precinct polling place located within the county for:

(1) each general election for state and county officers;

(2) each countywide election held on the uniform election date in May; and

(3) each election of a political subdivision located in the county that is held jointly with an election described by Subdivision (1) or (2).

(b) The secretary of state shall provide for an audit of the direct recording electronic voting units of a county that operates polling places under this section before and after the election, and during the election to the extent such an audit is practicable.

(c) In order to operate polling places in the manner described by this section, the commissioners court must receive approval from the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall

1 approve each county that:

2 (1) has implemented a computerized voter registration
3 list that allows an election officer at the polling place to verify
4 that a voter has not previously voted in the election; and

5 (2) uses direct recording electronic voting machines
6 or is otherwise determined by the secretary of state to have the
7 appropriate technological capabilities.

8 (d) Each polling place must allow a voter to vote in the same
9 elections in which the voter would be entitled to vote in the county
10 election precinct in which the voter resides.

11 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.