

By: Chisum

H.B. No. 3290

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the acceptance of a voter for voting.

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

SECTION 1. Section 63.001, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsections (g) and (h) to read as follows:

(g) An election officer who determines not to accept a voter shall provide the voter with a statement signed by the election officer listing all reasons why that voter was not accepted and the circumstances under which a voter may vote a provisional ballot. The statement shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state. The form shall include a list of common reasons for not accepting a voter and a space or box next to each reason to indicate whether the reason applies to the voter, and a space or box to indicate whether the voter was offered the opportunity to cast a provisional ballot. The secretary of state, to the extent practicable, shall prescribe the use of existing forms to provide the statement required by this subsection to minimize the number of forms needed at a polling place. The election officer shall retain a copy of the statement and submit the copy to the general custodian of election records when the election returns are submitted. The copy is a public record.

(h) The secretary of state shall study copies of signed statements under Subsection (g) on file with general custodians of election records and shall recommend to the legislature at least

1 biennially any changes to reduce the number of eligible voters not
2 accepted.

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