

By: Farias

H.B. No. 4389

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the Health and Human Services Commission's authority to
3 combine applications for benefits with a voter registration
4 application.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 20, Election Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 20.010 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 20.010. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION FORMS AND
9 PROCEDURES. (a) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
10 Services Commission shall prescribe and require use by the
11 commission and health and human services agencies of forms and
12 procedures that combine each application form for a benefits
13 program administered by the commission or a health and human
14 services agency with an officially prescribed voter registration
15 application form.

16 (b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
17 Services Commission shall prescribe and require use by the
18 commission and health and human services agencies of a change of
19 address form and procedure that combines commission or health and
20 human services agency functions and voter registration functions.
21 The form must allow a recipient of benefits to indicate whether the
22 change of address is also to be used for voter registration
23 purposes.

24 (c) The design, content, and physical characteristics of

1 the forms required by this section must be approved by the secretary
2 of state.

3 (d) Forms required under this section must include the
4 following statement in a prominent location: "If you are not a
5 citizen of the United States, it is illegal for you to register to
6 vote."

7 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act
8 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
9 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
10 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
11 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
12 waiver or authorization is granted.

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