

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 27, 2009

TO: Honorable Todd Smith, Chair, House Committee on Elections

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB512 by Ortiz, Jr. (Relating to the hours during which the polls are open for early voting by personal appearance.), **As Introduced**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Election Code to require each voter registrar's office to remain open for providing voter registration information during the hours that the main early voting polling place is open for voting. Under current statute, that requirement applies only if early voting by personal appearance is required to be conducted for extended hours or for weekend hours.

The bill would specify that a main early voting polling place in certain counties for general or special elections must be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each weekday of the early voting period, whereas under current statute the requirement is at least 12 hours the last week of the early voting period for general elections and at least 12 hours the last two days of the early voting period for special elections. The time an early voting period by personal appearance in a primary election or general election would also be specified as from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the last Saturday of the early voting period.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 307 Secretary of State

LBB Staff: JOB, TP, DB