

By: Veasey

H.B. No. 2533

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the selection of election officers for early voting polling places for certain elections.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 85.009, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 85.009. ELECTION OFFICERS FOR CERTAIN ELECTIONS [~~GENERAL ELECTION FOR STATE AND COUNTY OFFICERS~~].

SECTION 2. Section 85.009, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) This section applies only to a primary election, a runoff primary election, or the general election for state and county officers.

(a-1) The county clerk shall select election officers for the main early voting polling place and any branch polling place from a list provided under Subsection (b), in a manner that provides equal representation to the extent possible for each political party holding a primary election in the county.

(b) Before July of each year, the county chair of each political party holding a primary election in the county shall submit in writing to the county clerk a list of names of persons in order of preference for each early voting polling place who are eligible for selection as an election officer. The county chair may

1 supplement the list of names of persons until the 30th day before
2 early voting begins in case an appointed election officer becomes
3 unable to serve. The county clerk shall appoint the first person
4 meeting the applicable eligibility requirements from the list
5 submitted in compliance with this subsection by the party whose
6 candidate for governor received ~~[with]~~ the highest number of votes
7 in the county in the most recent gubernatorial general election as
8 the presiding election officer of that polling place and the first
9 person meeting the applicable eligibility requirements from the
10 list submitted in compliance with this subsection by the party
11 whose candidate for governor received ~~[with]~~ the second highest
12 number of votes in the county in the most recent gubernatorial
13 general election as the alternate presiding election officer of
14 that polling place. The county clerk shall appoint additional
15 election officers for each polling place in the manner described by
16 Subsection (a-1) ~~[(a)]~~. The county clerk may reject the list if the
17 persons whose names are submitted on the list are determined not to
18 meet the applicable eligibility requirements.

19 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.