

1-1 By: Simmons, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Paxton) H.B. No. 259
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 2, 2013;
 1-3 May 13, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on State
 1-4 Affairs; May 15, 2013, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 7, Nays 1; May 15, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11		X		
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to electioneering conducted near a polling place.
 1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-21 SECTION 1. The heading to Section 61.003, Election Code, is
 1-22 amended to read as follows:
 1-23 Sec. 61.003. ELECTIONEERING AND LOITERING NEAR POLLING
 1-24 PLACE [~~PROHIBITED~~].
 1-25 SECTION 2. Section 61.003, Election Code, is amended by
 1-26 adding Subsection (a-1) and amending Subsection (b) to read as
 1-27 follows:
 1-28 (a-1) The entity that owns or controls a public building
 1-29 being used as a polling place may not, at any time during the voting
 1-30 period, prohibit electioneering on the building's premises outside
 1-31 of the area described in Subsection (a), but may enact reasonable
 1-32 regulations concerning the time, place, and manner of
 1-33 electioneering.
 1-34 (b) In this section:
 1-35 (1) "Electioneering" includes the posting, use, or
 1-36 distribution of political signs or literature.
 1-37 (2) "Voting [~~, "voting~~] period" means the period
 1-38 beginning when the polls open for voting and ending when the polls
 1-39 close or the last voter has voted, whichever is later.
 1-40 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 85.036, Election Code, is
 1-41 amended to read as follows:
 1-42 Sec. 85.036. ELECTIONEERING [~~PROHIBITED~~].
 1-43 SECTION 4. Section 85.036, Election Code, is amended by
 1-44 adding Subsections (b) and (f) to read as follows:
 1-45 (b) The entity that owns or controls a public building being
 1-46 used as an early voting polling place may not, at any time during
 1-47 the early voting period, prohibit electioneering on the building's
 1-48 premises outside of the area described in Subsection (a), but may
 1-49 enact reasonable regulations concerning the time, place, and manner
 1-50 of electioneering.
 1-51 (f) In this section:
 1-52 (1) "Early voting period" means the period prescribed
 1-53 by Section 85.001.
 1-54 (2) "Electioneering" includes the posting, use, or
 1-55 distribution of political signs or literature.
 1-56 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-57 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-58 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-59 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-60 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

1-61 * * * * *