

1-1 By: White, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Van de Putte) H.B. No. 1129
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2013;
 1-3 May 9, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on State
 1-4 Affairs; May 17, 2013, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;
 1-6 May 17, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
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	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 1129 By: Van de Putte

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to a program allowing certain military voters on active
 1-22 duty overseas to cast a ballot electronically.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Chapter 105, Election Code, is amended by adding
 1-25 Section 105.004 to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 105.004. E-MAIL BALLOT PROGRAM. (a) The secretary of
 1-27 state shall implement a program to allow a person who is casting an
 1-28 early voting ballot by mail to return the ballot by e-mail if the
 1-29 person is a member of the armed forces of the United States who is on
 1-30 active duty overseas and eligible for hostile fire pay. The
 1-31 secretary of state shall prescribe procedures to provide for a
 1-32 process implemented under this section to require:

1-33 (1) the voter to print the ballot, print and sign a
 1-34 voter signature form, and then scan the documents before submitting
 1-35 them by e-mail; and

1-36 (2) secure processing of ballots, including requiring
 1-37 the use of a voter's military e-mail address and common access card,
 1-38 or other measures the secretary of state considers appropriate.

1-39 (b) The secretary of state shall select to participate in
 1-40 the program one county that:

1-41 (1) desires to participate in the program; and

1-42 (2) is determined by the secretary of state to have the
 1-43 appropriate technological capabilities.

1-44 (c) The secretary of state shall operate the program
 1-45 established under Subsection (a) as a pilot program until September
 1-46 1, 2015.

1-47 (d) Not later than January 1, 2015, the secretary of state
 1-48 shall file a report with the legislature. The report may include
 1-49 the secretary of state's recommendations on the future use of
 1-50 e-mail ballot submission by members of the armed forces of the
 1-51 United States and suggestions for permanent statutory authority
 1-52 regarding e-mail ballot submission by members of the armed forces
 1-53 of the United States.

1-54 (e) This section expires September 1, 2015.

2-1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-5 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

2-6

* * * * *