

1-1 By: Uresti S.B. No. 553  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 13, 2013; February 20, 2013,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;  
 1-4 March 20, 2013, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; March 20, 2013,  
 1-6 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 S.B. No. 553 By: Deuell

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

1-21 relating to certain high school students serving as early voting  
 1-22 clerks in an election.

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

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 25.087, Education Code, is amended by  
 1-25 adding Subsections (b-1) and (e) and amending Subsection (d) to  
 1-26 read as follows:

1-27 (b-1) A school district may adopt a policy excusing a  
 1-28 student from attending school for service as a student early voting  
 1-29 clerk in an election.

1-30 (d) A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b),  
 1-31 (b-1), (b-2), or (c) may not be penalized for that absence and shall  
 1-32 be counted as if the student attended school for purposes of  
 1-33 calculating the average daily attendance of students in the school  
 1-34 district. A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b),  
 1-35 (b-1), [or] (b-2), or (c) shall be allowed a reasonable time to make  
 1-36 up school work missed on those days. If the student satisfactorily  
 1-37 completes the school work, the day of absence shall be counted as a  
 1-38 day of compulsory attendance.

1-39 (e) A school district may excuse a student for the purposes  
 1-40 provided by Subsections (b)(1)(E) and (b-1) for a maximum of two  
 1-41 days in a school year.

1-42 SECTION 2. Section 33.092, Education Code, is amended to  
 1-43 read as follows:

1-44 Sec. 33.092. STUDENT ELECTION CLERKS AND EARLY VOTING  
 1-45 CLERKS. A student who is appointed as a student election clerk  
 1-46 under Section 32.0511, Election Code, or as a student early voting  
 1-47 clerk under Section 83.012, Election Code, may apply the time  
 1-48 served as a student election clerk or student early voting clerk  
 1-49 toward:

1-50 (1) a requirement for a school project at the  
 1-51 discretion of the teacher who assigned the project; or

1-52 (2) a service requirement for participation in an  
 1-53 advanced academic course program at the discretion of the program  
 1-54 sponsor or a school-sponsored extracurricular activity at the  
 1-55 discretion of the school sponsor.

1-56 SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 83, Election Code, is  
 1-57 amended by adding Section 83.012 to read as follows:

1-58 Sec. 83.012. STUDENT EARLY VOTING CLERKS. (a) The early  
 1-59 voting clerk may appoint student early voting clerks as necessary  
 1-60 to assist the early voting clerk.

2-1           (b) A person is eligible to serve as a student early voting  
2-2 clerk under this section if the person is ineligible to serve as a  
2-3 clerk of an election precinct under Section 32.051(c) but meets the  
2-4 eligibility requirements to be a student election clerk under  
2-5 Section 32.0511.

2-6           (c) A student early voting clerk serving under this section:  
2-7                 (1) is entitled to compensation under Section 83.052  
2-8 in the same manner as other early voting clerks; and

2-9                 (2) when communicating with a voter who cannot  
2-10 communicate in English, may communicate with the voter in a  
2-11 language the voter and the clerk understand as authorized by  
2-12 Subchapter B, Chapter 61.

2-13           (d) Not more than four student early voting clerks may serve  
2-14 at an early voting polling place.

2-15           (e) The secretary of state may initiate or assist in the  
2-16 development of a statewide program promoting the use of student  
2-17 early voting clerks appointed under this section.

2-18           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-22 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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