

AN ACT

relating to use of countywide polling places for certain elections.

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

SECTION 1. Section 43.004, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) If a political subdivision holds an election jointly with an election described by Section 43.007(a)(1), (2), (3), or (4) and is required to use countywide polling places under Section 43.007, the governing body of the political subdivision may designate as the polling places for any required runoff election only the polling places located in the territory or in and near the territory of the political subdivision where eligible voters reside.

SECTION 2. Subsection (a), Section 43.007, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The secretary of state shall implement a program to allow each commissioners court participating in the program to eliminate county election precinct polling places and establish countywide polling places for:

(1) each general election for state and county officers;

(2) each election held on the uniform election date in May;

(3) each election on a proposed constitutional

1 amendment; [~~and~~]

2 (4) each primary election and runoff primary election
3 if:

4 (A) the county chair or county executive
5 committee of each political party participating in a joint primary
6 election under Section 172.126 agrees to the use of countywide
7 polling places; or

8 (B) the county chair or county executive
9 committee of each political party required to nominate candidates
10 by primary election agrees to use the same countywide polling
11 places; and

12 (5) each election of a political subdivision located
13 in the county that is held jointly with an election described by
14 Subdivision (1), (2), (3), or (4) [~~(3)~~].

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 578 passed the Senate on March 27, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0; May 22, 2013, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 23, 2013, House granted request of the Senate; May 25, 2013, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 1.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 578 passed the House, with amendments, on May 17, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 0, two present not voting; May 23, 2013, House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 25, 2013, House adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 2, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor