

By: Alvarado

H.B. No. 953

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to electronic voter registration.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 13, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 13.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 13.009. ELECTRONIC VOTER REGISTRATION. (a) The secretary of state shall implement a program to allow a person who has an unexpired driver's license or personal identification card issued in this state to complete a voter registration application over the Internet from the official website of this state. The websites of the secretary of state and the Department of Public Safety must also provide a link to the location of the application on the official website of this state.

(b) An applicant for electronic voter registration must:

(1) attest to the truth of the information provided on the application by affirmatively accepting the information as true; and

(2) affirmatively consent to the use of the signature on the applicant's driver's license or personal identification card for voter registration purposes.

(c) For each application the program shall:

(1) require that a digital copy of the applicant's signature be obtained from the Department of Public Safety; and

(2) compare the information provided by the applicant

1 against Department of Public Safety records.

2 (d) If the information submitted by an applicant does not
3 match Department of Public Safety records, the program shall:

4 (1) notify the applicant that the application cannot
5 be processed electronically; and

6 (2) advise the applicant to print an application and
7 submit it to the voter registrar of the county in which the
8 applicant resides by mail or personal delivery.

9 (e) If the information submitted by an applicant matches
10 Department of Public Safety records, the program shall forward the
11 application to the registrar of the county in which the applicant
12 states that the applicant resides.

13 (f) On receipt of an application under Subsection (e), the
14 registrar shall review the application in accordance with Section
15 [13.071](#).

16 (g) An application electronically submitted under this
17 section is considered for all purposes as an application submitted
18 by mail under this title.

19 (h) The secretary of state shall adopt rules as necessary to
20 implement this section, including rules to provide for additional
21 security measures necessary to ensure the accuracy and integrity of
22 applications submitted electronically.

23 (i) The rules adopted under Subsection (h) must require
24 that:

25 (1) the Internet website through which a person may
26 complete a voter registration application include a description of
27 the offense described by Section [13.007](#) in a conspicuous location

1 on the website near the place where the person begins or submits the
2 application; and

3 (2) the state electronic Internet portal project be
4 used to authenticate the identity of a person who submits an
5 application electronically under this section.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.