

By: White of Tyler

H.B. No. 1646

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

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

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

SECTION 1. Sections 105.004(b), (c), (d), and (e), Election Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The secretary of state shall select to participate in the program a number of counties as determined by the secretary of state ~~[one county]~~ that:

(1) desire ~~[desires]~~ to participate in the program;

and

(2) are ~~[is]~~ determined by the secretary of state to have the appropriate technological capabilities.

(c) The secretary of state shall operate the program established under Subsection (a) as a pilot program until September 1, 2017 ~~[2015]~~.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2017 ~~[2015]~~, the secretary of state shall file a report with the legislature. The report may include the secretary of state's recommendations on the future use of e-mail ballot submission by members of the armed forces of the United States and suggestions for permanent statutory authority regarding e-mail ballot submission by members of the armed forces of the United States.

(e) This section expires September 1, 2017 ~~[2015]~~.

1           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.