

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 2371

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to qualifications and registration of certain voters on parole or mandatory supervision.

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

SECTION 1. Section 11.002(a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In this code, "qualified voter" means a person who:

(1) is 18 years of age or older;

(2) is a United States citizen;

(3) has not been determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be:

(A) totally mentally incapacitated; or

(B) partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote;

(4) has not been finally convicted of a felony or, if so convicted, has:

(A) completed [~~fully discharged the person's sentence, including~~] any term of incarceration[~~, parole,~~] or community supervision, or completed a period of probation ordered by any court;

(B) been released on parole or mandatory supervision; or

(C) [(B)] been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disability to vote;

1 (5) is a resident of this state; and

2 (6) is a registered voter.

3 SECTION 2. Section 13.001(a), Election Code, is amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (a) To be eligible for registration as a voter in this  
6 state, a person must:

7 (1) be 18 years of age or older;

8 (2) be a United States citizen;

9 (3) not have been determined by a final judgment of a  
10 court exercising probate jurisdiction to be:

11 (A) totally mentally incapacitated; or

12 (B) partially mentally incapacitated without the  
13 right to vote;

14 (4) not have been finally convicted of a felony or, if  
15 so convicted, must have:

16 (A) completed [~~fully discharged the person's~~  
17 ~~sentence, including~~] any term of incarceration[~~, parole,~~] or  
18 community supervision, or completed a period of probation ordered  
19 by any court;

20 (B) been released on parole or mandatory  
21 supervision; or

22 (C) [~~(B)~~] been pardoned or otherwise released  
23 from the resulting disability to vote; and

24 (5) be a resident of the county in which application  
25 for registration is made.

26 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
27 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

H.B. No. 2371

1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.