

By: Blanco

H.B. No. 3878

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to early voting in a primary or general election for state and county officers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 85.006, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 85.006. VOTING ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the authority ordering an election may order early voting by personal appearance at the main early voting polling place to be conducted on one or more Saturdays or Sundays during the early voting period.

(b) In an election in which a county clerk or city secretary is the early voting clerk under Section 83.002 or 83.005, only the early voting clerk may order voting on a Saturday or Sunday. The clerk must do so by written order.

(c) The authority ordering voting on a Saturday or Sunday shall determine the hours during which voting is to be conducted.

~~[(d) The authority authorized to order early voting on a Saturday or Sunday under Subsection (a) or (b) shall order the voting under the applicable subsection on receipt of a written request submitted by at least 15 registered voters of the territory covered by the election. The request must be submitted in time to enable compliance with Section 85.007. The authority is not required to order the voting on a particular date specified by the~~

1 ~~request but shall order the voting on at least one Saturday if a~~
2 ~~Saturday is requested and on at least one Sunday if a Sunday is~~
3 ~~requested.]~~

4 ~~[(e)]~~ (d) In a primary election or the general election for
5 state and county officers ~~[in a county with a population of 100,000~~
6 ~~or more,]~~ the early voting clerk shall order personal appearance
7 voting at the main early voting polling place to be conducted for at
8 least 12 hours on the last Saturday and for at least five hours on
9 the last Sunday of the early voting period. The early voting clerk
10 shall order voting to be conducted at those times. ~~[in those~~
11 ~~elections in a county with a population under 100,000 on receipt of~~
12 ~~a written request for those hours submitted by at least 15~~
13 ~~registered voters of the county. The request must be submitted in~~
14 ~~time to enable compliance with Section 85.007. This subsection~~
15 ~~supersedes any provision of this subchapter to the extent of any~~
16 ~~conflict.]~~