

By: Garcia

S.B. No. 1490

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to issuance of a receipt for a voter registration application that may be used for the purpose of voting.

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. ISSUANCE OF RECEIPT. (a) This section applies only to a completed registration application that is submitted by the applicant in person to a voter registrar, deputy registrar, or volunteer deputy registrar or a voter registration agency designated under Chapter 20. This section does not apply to a completed registration application that is submitted by mail.

(b) On receipt of a completed registration application, the person receiving the application shall prepare a receipt on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and furnished by the registrar.

(c) The receipt must contain:

(1) the name of the applicant and, if applicable, the name of the applicant's agent;

(2) the date the completed application is submitted to the volunteer deputy registrar; and

(3) the following statement: "This receipt is your proof of application for voter registration. Retain it until you receive a voter registration certificate from your local

1 voter registrar. If you do not receive a voter certificate,
2 you may use this receipt as proof that you timely submitted an
3 application to vote."

4 (d) The person receiving the application shall sign the
5 receipt in the applicant's presence and shall present the signed
6 receipt to the applicant.

7 (e) The person receiving the application shall deliver a
8 duplicate receipt to the registrar with the registration
9 application or sign and date the application as set forth in
10 subsection (g). The registrar shall retain the receipt on file with
11 the application.

12 (f) A voter registrar may allow a deputy voter registrar to
13 sign their name, the date of registration, and any additional
14 information required by the voter registrar on the voter
15 registration application instead of issuing duplicate receipts.

16 (g) The secretary of state may prescribe a procedure that is
17 an alternative to the procedure prescribed by this section that
18 will ensure the accountability of the registration applications.

19 SECTION 2. Section 63.011, Election Code, is amended by adding
20 Subsection (f) to read as follows:

21 (f) A person who votes a provisional ballot solely because
22 the person's name was not on the list of registered voters for the
23 precinct in which the person voted may present a voter registration
24 receipt issued to the person under Section 13.009 as proof that the
25 person is registered to vote in the precinct. A person who does not
26 present a voter registration receipt at the time of voting a
27 provisional ballot may present the receipt to the voter registrar

1 in the same manner as presenting identification for a provisional
2 ballot under Section 65.0541.

3 SECTION 3. Section 65.054, Election Code, is amended by
4 adding Subsection (e) and (f) to read as follows:

5 (e) Any voter who does not appear on the list of registered
6 voters for the precinct and presents a receipt issued by a deputy
7 voter registrar shall be noted on the affidavit executed under this
8 section. The affidavit shall include space for disclosure of the
9 deputy registrar's name as listed on the receipt and the date the
10 receipt was issued. The election judge shall sign the affidavit to
11 attest that the voter presented the receipt and that the
12 information on the affidavit matches the receipt.

13 (f) For purposes of Subsection (b)(1), an affidavit
14 indicating the voter registered in the precinct in which the voter
15 voted that contains the name of a certified deputy registrar of the
16 county and the receipt was dated in a timely manner to be eligible
17 for the election or a receipt presented to the voter registrar under
18 Section 63.011(f) is proof that the voter is eligible to vote in the
19 election. The voter registrar shall amend the list of registered
20 voters accordingly and the early voting ballot board shall count
21 the ballot.

22 SECTION 4. Section 13.040, Election Code, is repealed.

23 SECTION 5. The change in law made by this Act in adding
24 Section 13.009, Election Code, applies only to a voter registration
25 application submitted on or after the effective date of this Act.

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