

Amend CSHB 1735 (house committee printing) by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTIONS to the bill and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION _____. Section 32.002, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(c-1) For purposes of this subsection, the county chair shall provide a list of names of persons eligible for appointment as election judges. Judges of countywide polling places established under Section 43.007 must be appointed from the list of names of persons submitted by the county chair in compliance with Subsection (c) except that in appointing a person from the list the commissioners court shall apportion the number of judges in direct proportion to the percentage of precincts located in each county commissioner's precinct won by each party in the last gubernatorial election, the commissioners court is not required to make the appointments based on specific polling locations or precincts, a presiding judge or alternate presiding judge is not required to serve in a polling place located in the precinct in which the judge resides, and more than one presiding judge or alternate presiding judge may be selected from the same precinct to serve in polling places not located in the precinct in which the judges reside. The county chairs may submit, and the commissioners court may preapprove, the appointment of more presiding judges or alternate presiding judges than necessary to fill available positions. The county clerk may select an individual whose appointment was preapproved by the commissioners court to fill a vacancy in a position that was held by an individual from the same political party. Other than a judge's party affiliation, nothing in this subsection precludes a county clerk from placing an election officer at a countywide polling place based on the need for services at that location.

SECTION _____. Section 32.006(a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The county chair of a political party holding a primary election shall appoint for each primary [~~with the approval of the county executive committee,~~] the judges for each precinct in which the election will be held in the county and fill any vacancy that

occurs in the position of presiding judge or alternate presiding judge.

SECTION _____. Section 32.009(d), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) A notice to a presiding judge must state the name, ~~[and]~~ address, and any available telephone number and e-mail address of the alternate, and a notice to an alternate must state the name, ~~[and]~~ address, and any available telephone number and e-mail address of the presiding judge.

SECTION _____. Subchapter A, Chapter 32, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 32.012 to read as follows:

Sec. 32.012. PROVISION OF INFORMATION RELATING TO ELECTION JUDGES APPOINTED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT. (a) After the commissioners court appoints a presiding election judge and an alternate presiding judge, the county clerk shall provide to the county chair of each political party a list of the individuals appointed by the commissioners court.

(b) The appointment list must be provided in writing.

SECTION _____. Section 32.114(e), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e) An election judge, early voting clerk, or deputy early voting clerk in charge of an early voting polling place is entitled to compensation for attending the training program at an hourly rate fixed by the appropriate authority in an amount that is equal to or greater than the federal minimum wage ~~[not to exceed \$7]~~.

SECTION _____. Section 43.007, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (m) and (n) to read as follows:

(a) The secretary of state shall implement a program to allow each commissioners court participating in the program to eliminate county election precinct polling places and establish countywide polling places for:

(1) each general election for state and county officers;

(2) each election held on the uniform election date in May and any resulting runoff;

(3) each election on a proposed constitutional

amendment;

(4) each primary election and runoff primary election if:

(A) the county chair or county executive committee of each political party participating in a joint primary election under Section 172.126 agrees to the use of countywide polling places; or

(B) the county chair or county executive committee of each political party required to nominate candidates by primary election agrees to use the same countywide polling places; and

(5) each election of a political subdivision located in the county that is held jointly with an election described by Subdivision (1), (2), (3), or (4).

(m) In adopting a methodology under Subsection (f), the county must ensure that:

(1) each county commissioner's precinct contains at least one countywide polling place; and

(2) the total number of permanent branch and temporary branch polling places open for voting in a county commissioner's precinct does not exceed more than twice the number of permanent branch and temporary branch polling places in another county commissioner's precinct.

(n) To the greatest extent possible, countywide polling places shall be located in a precinct where the political party that received the greatest number of votes in the last gubernatorial election is the same political party with which the presiding judge is affiliated.

SECTION _____. Section 85.009(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Before July of each year, the county chair of each political party holding a primary election in the county shall submit in writing to the county clerk a list of names of persons in order of preference for each early voting polling place who are eligible for selection as an election officer. The county chair may supplement the list of names of persons until the 30th day before early voting begins in case an appointed election officer

becomes unable to serve. The county clerk shall appoint the first person meeting the applicable eligibility requirements from the list submitted in compliance with this subsection by the party with the highest number of votes in the county as the presiding judge [~~election officer~~] of that polling place and the first person meeting the applicable eligibility requirements from the list submitted in compliance with this subsection by the party with the second highest number of votes in the county as the alternate presiding judge [~~election officer~~] of that polling place. The county clerk shall appoint additional election officers for each polling place in the manner described by Subsection (a). The county clerk may reject the list if the persons whose names are submitted on the list are determined not to meet the applicable eligibility requirements.

SECTION _____. Subchapter A, Chapter 85, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 85.0091 to read as follows:

Sec. 85.0091. EARLY VOTING ELECTION OFFICERS FOR PRIMARY ELECTIONS. (a) The early voting clerk shall select election officers for a primary election for the main early voting polling place and any branch polling place in a manner consistent with Section 85.009, except that the early voting clerk shall prescribe the deadline by which county chairs must submit names of persons eligible to serve as election officers during early voting.

(b) This section does not apply to a joint primary governed by Section 172.126.

SECTION _____. Sections 32.006(b) and 32.010, Election Code, are repealed.