

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 159

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to electronic voter registration.

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

SECTION 1. Section 13.002, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

(a) A person desiring to register to vote must submit an application to the registrar of the county in which the person resides. Except as provided by Subsections [~~Subsection~~] (e) and (e-1), an application must be submitted by personal delivery, by mail, or by telephonic facsimile machine in accordance with Sections 13.143(d) and (d-2).

(e-1) A registrar shall adopt procedures to allow a person to complete a voter registration application over the Internet. The secretary of state shall review any procedures adopted under this section to ensure the procedures comply with the provisions of this code.

SECTION 2. Section 13.072, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) A registrar may not reject an application that was forwarded to the registrar under Subsection (d) because the application was submitted electronically.

SECTION 3. The voter registrar of a county must adopt procedures for the acceptance of voter registration applications

1 under Section 13.002(e-1), Election Code, as added by this Act, not  
2 later than September 1, 2017.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
7 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the  
8 legislative session.