

By: Shaheen

H.B. No. 1797

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the offense of unacknowledged assistance to a voter in
3 completing an application for a ballot to be voted by mail.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 84.003(b), Election Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (b) A person who acts as a witness for an applicant for an
8 early voting ballot application commits an offense if the person
9 knowingly fails to comply with Section 1.011. A person who [~~in the~~
10 ~~presence of the applicant~~] otherwise assists an applicant in
11 completing an early voting ballot application commits an offense if
12 the person knowingly fails to comply with Section 1.011(d) in the
13 same manner as a witness.

14 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
15 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
16 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
17 governed by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and
18 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
19 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
20 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
21 before that date.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.