

By: Paul

H.B. No. 2270

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the requirements of service and duties of certain
3 election officers.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 87, Election Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 87.006 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 87.006. EARLY VOTING BALLOT BOARD MEMBERS: OATH AND
8 IDENTIFICATION. (a) A member of the early voting ballot board
9 shall repeat the following oath aloud:

10 "I swear (or affirm) that I will objectively work to be sure
11 every eligible voter's vote is accepted and counted, and that only
12 the ballots of those voters who violated the Texas Election Code
13 will be rejected. I will make every effort to correctly reflect the
14 voter's intent when it can be clearly determined. I will not work
15 alone when ballots are present and will work only in the presence of
16 a member of a political party different from my own. I will
17 faithfully perform my duty as an officer of the election and guard
18 the purity of the election."

19 (b) A member of the early voting ballot board who arrives
20 after the oath is made shall repeat the oath aloud before performing
21 any duties as a member.

22 (c) Following administration of the oath, each member of the
23 early voting ballot board shall be issued a form of identification,
24 prescribed by the secretary of state, to be displayed by the member

1 during the member's hours of service on the board.

2 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 127, Election Code, is
3 amended by adding Section 127.0015 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 127.0015. CENTRAL COUNTING STATION OFFICERS: OATH AND
5 IDENTIFICATION. (a) Election officers appointed under this
6 subchapter shall repeat the following oath aloud:

7 "I swear (or affirm) that I will objectively work to be sure
8 every eligible voter's vote is accepted and counted, and that only
9 the ballots of those voters who violated the Texas Election Code
10 will be rejected. I will make every effort to correctly reflect the
11 voter's intent when it can be clearly determined. I will not work
12 alone when ballots are present and will work only in the presence of
13 a member of a political party different from my own. I will
14 faithfully perform my duty as an officer of the election and guard
15 the purity of the election."

16 (b) An officer who arrives after the oath is made shall
17 repeat the oath aloud before performing any duties as an election
18 officer.

19 (c) Following administration of the oath, each election
20 officer shall be issued a form of identification, prescribed by the
21 secretary of state, to be displayed by the officer during the
22 officer's hours of service at the central counting station.

23 SECTION 3. Section 127.004(b), Election Code, is amended to
24 read as follows:

25 (b) To be eligible for appointment, a person must:

26 (1) have the competence, training, and experience
27 required for the proper performance of the work assigned; and

1 (2) be a registered voter of the political subdivision
2 served by the authority establishing the counting station or an
3 employee of the political subdivision that adopts or owns the
4 voting system.

5 SECTION 4. Section 127.007, Election Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

7 (c) The plan required under this section must be available
8 to the public on request not later than 5 p.m. on the fifth day
9 before the date of the election.

10 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.