

By: Thompson of Harris

H.B. No. 2676

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the restoration of rights to certain persons convicted of a felony offense.

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

SECTION 1. Section 11.002, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(4)(A), a person on parole or released to mandatory supervision, other than a person required to register as a sex offender under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure, is considered to have fully discharged the person's sentence if the person:

(1) was released on parole or to mandatory supervision not less than 10 years before the day the person offers to vote; and

(2) has been released from supervision and reporting requirements under Section 508.155, Government Code.

SECTION 2. Section 13.001, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(4)(A), a person on parole or released to mandatory supervision, other than a person required to register as a sex offender under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure, is considered to have fully discharged the person's sentence if the person:

(1) was released on parole or to mandatory supervision not less than 10 years before the date the registration application

1 is submitted; and

2 (2) has been released from supervision and reporting
3 requirements under Section 508.155, Government Code.

4 SECTION 3. Section 46.04(a), Penal Code, is amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (a) A person who has been convicted of a felony commits an
7 offense if the person [~~he~~] possesses a firearm:

8 (1) after conviction and before:

9 (A) except as provided by Paragraph (B), the
10 fifth anniversary of the person's release from confinement
11 following conviction of the felony or the person's release from
12 supervision under community supervision, parole, or mandatory
13 supervision, whichever date is later; or

14 (B) for a person on parole or released to
15 mandatory supervision, other than a person required to register as
16 a sex offender under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure, who has
17 been released from supervision and reporting requirements under
18 Section 508.155, Government Code, the 10th anniversary of the date
19 the person was released on parole or to mandatory supervision; or

20 (2) after the period described by Subdivision (1), at
21 any location other than the premises at which the person lives.

22 SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act to Section
23 46.04, Penal Code, applies only to an offense committed on or after
24 the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the
25 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the
26 date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in
27 effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense

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1 was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element
2 of the offense occurred before that date.

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