

By: Cook

H.B. No. 3442

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Fairfield Hospital District.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1015.052, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1015.052. NOTICE OF ELECTION. Notice [~~At least 35 days before the date of an election of directors, notice~~] of an [~~the~~] election of directors shall be published in accordance with Chapter 4, Election Code [~~one time in a newspaper with general circulation in the district~~].

SECTION 2. Section 1015.252, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b) The tax rate for all purposes may not exceed 12 cents on each \$100 valuation of all taxable property in the district, unless the tax rate is increased as provided by Section 1015.254.

(b-1) If an increase in the tax rate is approved at an election under Section 1015.254, the tax rate for all purposes may not exceed the maximum tax rate approved by the voters at the election.

SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 1015, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 1015.254 to read as follows:

Sec. 1015.254. ELECTION TO INCREASE MAXIMUM TAX RATE. (a)

1 The board may order an election to increase the maximum tax rate of  
2 the district to a rate not to exceed 25 cents on each \$100 valuation  
3 of the taxable property in the district.

4 (b) Subject to Subsection (d), the board shall order an  
5 election to increase the maximum tax rate of the district on  
6 presentation of a petition that:

7 (1) requests the election;

8 (2) states the maximum tax rate to be voted on at the  
9 election; and

10 (3) is signed by at least 100 registered voters of the  
11 district, as determined by the most recent official list of  
12 registered voters.

13 (c) The board by order shall set a time and place to hold a  
14 hearing on the petition. The board shall set a date for the hearing  
15 that is not earlier than the 11th day after the date the board  
16 issues the order.

17 (d) If, after the hearing, the board determines that the  
18 petition is in proper form and that an increase of the maximum tax  
19 rate would benefit the district, the board shall order an election  
20 to authorize the increase of the maximum tax rate to the tax rate  
21 stated in the petition.

22 (e) The election order must state:

23 (1) the nature of the election, including the  
24 proposition that is to appear on the ballot;

25 (2) the maximum tax rate to be voted on at the  
26 election;

27 (3) the date of the election;

1           (4) the hours during which the polls will be open; and

2           (5) the location of the polling places.

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 September 1, 2017.