

By: Vo

H.B. No. 3530

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to action by the state chair of a political party in the conduct of a primary election.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 172, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 172.129 to read as follows:

Sec. 172.129. ACTION BY STATE CHAIR TO MEET DEADLINES FOR CONDUCT OF PRIMARY. (a) Notwithstanding a conflicting provision of this code, the state chair, or the state chair's designee, may perform any administrative duty of the county chair or county executive committee related to the conduct of a primary election that has not been performed in the time required by law, including the submission of candidate information under Section 172.029, drawing for ballot order under Sections 172.082 and 172.084, and canvassing returns under Section 172.116.

(b) The state chair must notify the county chair or county executive committee in writing or electronically that a duty has been performed under the authority of this section.

(c) If a county chair has a reasonable impediment or lacks appropriate technology to perform any administrative duty of the county chair related to the conduct of a primary election within the time required by law, the county chair may request the state chair, or the state chair's designee, perform the duty instead of the county chair.

1 (d) The state chair may act in the role of the county chair
2 for the purposes of Subchapter D, Chapter 173, with the approval of
3 the secretary of state.

4 (e) The secretary of state shall adopt rules to implement
5 this section in accordance with the conduct of elections and with
6 party rule.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.