By: Watson S.B. No. 660

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

- 2 relating to the use of certain mobile devices at a polling place.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 4 SECTION 1. Sections 61.014(a), (b), and (c), Election Code,
- 5 are amended to read as follows:
- 6 (a) A person may not use a wireless communication device
- 7 within 50 [100] feet of a voting station. If voting stations are
- 8 located in a separate room from the area in which voters wait to
- 9 vote or are accepted for voting, a person may not use a wireless
- 10 communication device in the room in which voting stations are
- 11 located and may use the device in any other area.
- 12 (b) A person may not use any mechanical or electronic means
- 13 to record or capture [of recording] images or sound within 100 feet
- 14 of a voting station.
- 15 (c) The presiding judge may require a person who violates
- 16 this section to turn off the device [or to leave the polling place].
- 17 SECTION 2. The heading to Section 62.0111, Election Code,
- 18 is amended to read as follows:
- 19 Sec. 62.0111. NOTICE OF USE [PROHIBITION] OF CERTAIN
- 20 DEVICES.
- 21 SECTION 3. Section 62.0111(a), Election Code, is amended to
- 22 read as follows:
- 23 (a) At the discretion of the presiding judge, notice of the
- 24 [prohibition of the] use of certain devices under Section 61.014

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- 1 may be posted at one or more locations in the polling place where it
- 2 can be read by persons waiting to vote.
- 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.