By:  Klick, Raymond (Senate Sponsor - Fallon) H.B. No. 1850

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2019; May 10, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs; May 19, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 19, 2019, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Huffman         X

Hughes          X

Birdwell        X

Creighton       X

Fallon          X

Hall            X

Lucio           X

Nelson          X

Zaffirini       X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the availability of certain voter information.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 85.072, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsections (f) and (g) to read as follows:

(f)  The early voting clerk shall provide, in a downloadable database format, a current copy of the register for posting on the Internet website of the authority ordering the election, if the authority maintains a website, each day early voting is conducted. At a minimum, the voter registration number for each voter listed in the register must be posted.

(g)  The early voting clerk shall compile the registers and electronically submit to the secretary of state a record of each voter participating in a primary, a runoff primary, a general election, or any special election ordered by the governor not later than the day the voter votes in person or the early voting clerk receives a ballot voted by mail.

SECTION 2.  Section 87.121, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsections (g) and (h) and adding Subsections (i) and (j) to read as follows:

(g)  Information on the roster for a person who votes an early voting ballot by personal appearance shall be made available for public inspection as provided by Subsection (i) not later than 11 a.m. [~~the beginning of regular business hours~~] on the day after the date the information is entered on the roster under Subsection (c).

(h)  Information on the roster for a person who votes an early voting ballot by mail shall be made available for public inspection as provided by Subsection (i) not later than 11 a.m. on the day following the day the early voting clerk receives a ballot voted by mail.

(i)  The information under Subsections (g) and (h) must be made available:

(1)  for an election in which the county clerk is the early voting clerk:

(A)  on the publicly accessible Internet website of the county; or

(B)  if the county does not maintain a website, on the bulletin board used for posting notice of meetings of the commissioners court; or

(2)  for an election not described by Subdivision (1):

(A)  on the publicly accessible Internet website of the authority ordering the election; or

(B)  if the authority ordering the election does not maintain a website, on the bulletin board used for posting notice of meetings of the governing body of the authority.

(j)  The secretary of state shall make any early voting roster created under this section available to the public on the secretary's Internet website.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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