By:  Herrero (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa) H.B. No. 1927

(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 filling of a vacancy in the office of county commissioner in certain counties.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 87.042, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 87.042.  COUNTY COMMISSIONER VACANCY. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), if [~~If~~] a vacancy occurs in the office of county commissioner, the county judge shall appoint a suitable resident of the precinct in which the vacancy exists to fill the vacancy until the next general election.

(b)  This subsection applies only to a county with a population of more than 300,000. Not later than the 60th day after the date a vacancy occurs in the office of county commissioner, the county judge shall appoint a suitable resident of the precinct in which the vacancy exists to fill the vacancy until the next general election. If the county judge does not make an appointment to fill the vacancy before the 61st day after the date the vacancy occurred, the commissioners court by majority vote shall appoint a suitable resident of the precinct in which the vacancy exists to fill the vacancy until the next general election.

SECTION 2.  (a)  Section 87.042, Local Government Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a vacancy in the office of county commissioner that occurs on or after the effective date of this Act.

(b)  For a vacancy in the office of county commissioner that occurred and has not been filled before the effective date of this Act and to which Section 87.042(b), Local Government Code, as added by this Act, applies:

(1)  the county judge shall appoint, not later than the 60th day after the effective date of this Act, a suitable resident of the precinct in which the vacancy exists to fill the vacancy until the next general election; and

(2)  if the county judge does not make an appointment to fill the vacancy before the 61st day after the effective date of this Act, the commissioners court by majority vote shall appoint a suitable resident of the precinct in which the vacancy exists to fill the vacancy until the next general election.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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