86R4249 GRM-D

By:  Gutierrez H.B. No. 3330

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the participation of certain large counties in the countywide polling place program.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 43.007, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsections (b) and (i) and adding Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

(b)  The commissioners court of a county that desires to participate in the program authorized by this section or a county with a population of more than 1.5 million in which more than 75 percent of the population lives in a single municipality shall hold a public hearing on the county's participation in the program. The commissioners court shall submit a transcript or electronic recording of the public comments made at the hearing to the secretary of state. A county that has previously participated in a similar program and held a public hearing on the county's participation in that program is not required to hold a hearing under this subsection.

(d-1)  The secretary of state shall select to participate in the program each county with a population of more than 1.5 million in which more than 75 percent of the population lives in a single municipality.

(i)  The secretary of state may only select to participate in the program six counties with a population of 100,000 or more, not including a county selected under Subsection (d-1), and four counties with a population of less than 100,000.

SECTION 2.  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.