By:  Hall S.B. No. 1613

(In the Senate - Filed March 6, 2019; March 14, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Property Tax; May 6, 2019, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 1; May 6, 2019, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Bettencourt     X

Paxton          X

Creighton       X

Hancock         X

Hinojosa            X

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1613 By:  Paxton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to turnout requirements for certain elections authorizing the issuance of bonds or an increase in taxes by a political subdivision.

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

SECTION 1.  The heading to Chapter 2, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2. VOTE REQUIRED FOR ELECTION [~~TO OFFICE~~]

SECTION 2.  Chapter 2, Election Code, is amended by adding Subchapter E to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER E. TURNOUT REQUIREMENTS

Sec. 2.101.  APPLICABILITY. This subchapter does not apply to an election held on the November uniform election date of an even-numbered year.

Sec. 2.102.  POLITICAL SUBDIVISION BOND OR TAX ELECTION. An election held by a political subdivision to authorize the issuance of bonds or a tax increase has no effect regarding the issuance of the bonds or the tax increase unless more than 15 percent of the registered voters of the political subdivision in which the election is held whose registrations are effective on the date of the election vote in the election in which the bond or tax proposition is on the ballot.

SECTION 3.  The changes in law made by this Act apply only to bonds authorized to be issued or a tax increase authorized on or after the effective date of this Act. Bonds or a tax increase authorized before the effective date of this Act are governed by the law in effect when the bonds were authorized, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4.  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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