

AN ACT

relating to posting of election information on the secretary of state's and each county's Internet website.

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

SECTION 1. Section 4.003(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) In addition to any other notice given for an election under Subsection (a), not later than the 21st day before election day, a county ~~[the authority responsible for giving notice of the election]~~ shall post a copy of a ~~[the]~~ notice of the election given by the county or provided to the county under Section 4.008(a), which must include the location of each polling place, on the county's Internet website, if the county maintains a website. An authority responsible for giving notice of an election may post a copy of the notice on the bulletin board used for posting notices of the meetings of the governing body of the political subdivision that the authority serves. If a county does not maintain a website, the authority responsible for giving notice of the election shall post a copy of a notice of the election on the bulletin board used for posting notices of the meetings of the governing body of the political subdivision that the authority serves. For each precinct that is combined to form a consolidated precinct under Section 42.008, not later than the 10th day before election day, the authority shall also post, at the polling place used in the

1 preceding general election, notice of the precinct's consolidation
2 and the location of the polling place in the consolidated precinct.
3 A notice posted under this subsection must remain posted
4 continuously through election day.

5 SECTION 2. Section 4.008(a), Election Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the governing body
8 of a political subdivision, other than a county, that orders an
9 election shall deliver notice of the election, including the
10 location of each polling place, to the county clerk and voter
11 registrar of each county in which the political subdivision is
12 located not later than the 60th day before election day. The county
13 clerk shall post notice of the election, including the location of
14 each polling place, on the county's Internet website, if the county
15 maintains a website, as provided by Section 4.003(b).

16 SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 31, Election Code, is
17 amended by adding Section 31.016 to read as follows:

18 Sec. 31.016. VOTING INFORMATION ON SECRETARY OF STATE'S
19 WEBSITE. (a) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures
20 requiring the county officer responsible for administering
21 elections to submit contact information of the county election
22 office to the secretary of state for inclusion on the secretary of
23 state's Internet website, including:

24 (1) the street address and zip code;
25 (2) the mailing address if different from the address
26 provided in Subdivision (1);

27 (3) telephone number;

1 (4) facsimile number; and

2 (5) e-mail address.

3 (b) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures
4 requiring each entity designating the location of a polling place,
5 including an early voting polling place, to submit information on
6 the location to the secretary of state for inclusion on the
7 secretary of state's Internet website.

8 (c) For each polling place the information submitted must
9 include:

10 (1) the name of the building in which the polling place
11 is located, if available;

12 (2) the street address and zip code of the polling
13 place; and

14 (3) the days and hours of voting at each location.

15 (d) The polling information under Subsection (c) shall be
16 posted on the secretary of state's Internet website in a
17 downloadable format.

18 (e) The secretary of state:

19 (1) may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and
20 donations from any public or private source for the creation and
21 maintenance of the Internet website; and

22 (2) shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this
23 section.

24 SECTION 4. Subchapter E, Chapter 31, Election Code, is
25 amended by adding Section 31.125 to read as follows:

26 Sec. 31.125. COUNTY WEBSITE. (a) The county officer
27 responsible for administering elections shall post on the county's

1 Internet website contact information for the county election office
2 including:

- 3 (1) the street address and zip code;
- 4 (2) the mailing address if different from the address
5 provided in Subdivision (1);
- 6 (3) telephone number;
- 7 (4) facsimile number; and
- 8 (5) e-mail address.

9 (b) For each polling place located in the county, the county
10 shall post on the county's Internet website:

- 11 (1) the name of the building in which the polling place
12 is located, if available;
- 13 (2) the street address and zip code of the polling
14 place; and
- 15 (3) the days and hours of voting at each location.

16 (c) This section applies only to a county that maintains an
17 Internet website.

18 SECTION 5. Section 32.114(c), Election Code, is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (c) The county clerk shall:

- 21 (1) post a notice of the time and place of each session
22 on the county's Internet website, if the county maintains an
23 Internet website, and may post the notice on the bulletin board used
24 for posting notice of meetings of the commissioners court and shall
25 include on the notice a statement that the program is open to the
26 public;

27 (1-a) post notice of the time and place of each session

1 on the bulletin board used for posting notice of meetings of the
2 commissioners court, if the county does not maintain an Internet
3 website, and shall include on the notice a statement that the
4 program is open to the public;

5 (2) notify each presiding judge appointed by the
6 commissioners court of the time and place of each session and of the
7 duty of each election judge to complete the training program;

8 (3) notify the county chair of each political party in
9 the county of the time and place of each session; and

10 (4) notify the voter registrar of the date, hour, and
11 place of each session.

12 SECTION 6. Section 42.035(a), Election Code, is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 (a) Beginning with the first week following the week in
15 which an order changing a county election precinct boundary is
16 adopted, the commissioners court shall publish notice of the
17 change:

18 (1) in a newspaper in the county once a week for three
19 consecutive weeks; and

20 (2) on the county's Internet website, if the county
21 maintains an Internet website, for three consecutive weeks.

22 SECTION 7. Section 66.059, Election Code, is amended by
23 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as
24 follows:

25 (b) If the political subdivision holding the election is not
26 a county or is a county that does not maintain an Internet website,
27 the [The] district judge shall post a notice of the date, hour, and

1 place for opening the box on the bulletin board used for posting
2 notices of the meetings of the governing body of the political
3 subdivision served by the general custodian of election records.
4 The notice must remain posted continuously for the 24 hours
5 immediately preceding the hour set for opening the box.

6 (b-1) If the political subdivision holding the election is a
7 county that maintains an Internet website, the district judge shall
8 post a notice of the date, hour, and place for opening the box on the
9 county's Internet website. The notice must remain posted
10 continuously for the 24 hours preceding the hour set for opening the
11 box.

12 SECTION 8. Section 67.012(b), Election Code, is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 (b) The secretary of state shall post, on the secretary of
15 state's Internet website [~~bulletin board used for posting notice of~~
16 ~~meetings of state governmental bodies~~], a notice of the date, hour,
17 and place of the canvass at least 72 hours before the canvass is
18 conducted.

19 SECTION 9. Section 85.007(c), Election Code, is amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (c) Notice under Subsection (b) shall be posted
22 continuously for at least 72 hours immediately preceding the first
23 hour that the voting to which the notice pertains will be conducted.
24 The notice shall be posted on:

25 (1) the bulletin board used for posting notice of
26 meetings of the commissioners court if the early voting clerk is the
27 county clerk of a county that does not maintain an Internet website,

1 or of the city governing body if the early voting clerk is the city
2 secretary; or

3 (2) the county's Internet website if the early voting
4 clerk is the county clerk of a county that maintains an Internet
5 website.

6 SECTION 10. Section 85.067(d), Election Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (d) The schedule shall be posted on:

9 (1) the bulletin board used for posting notice of
10 meetings of the governing body of the political subdivision served
11 by the authority ordering the election or, if the early voting clerk
12 is the county clerk of a county that does not maintain an Internet
13 website or city secretary, meetings of the commissioners court or
14 city governing body, as applicable; or

15 (2) the county's Internet website if the early voting
16 clerk is the county clerk of a county that maintains an Internet
17 website.

18 SECTION 11. Section 87.027, Election Code, is amended by
19 amending Subsection (k) and adding Subsection (k-1) to read as
20 follows:

21 (k) Postings required by this section shall be made on the
22 bulletin board used for posting notice of meetings of the
23 commissioners court of a county that does not maintain an Internet
24 website, in an election for which the county election board is
25 established or a primary election, or of the governing body of the
26 political subdivision in other elections.

27 (k-1) If the county maintains an Internet website, postings

1 required by this section shall be made on the county's Internet
2 website in an election for which the county election board is
3 established or a primary election.

4 SECTION 12. Section 129.023(b), Election Code, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 (b) Not later than 48 hours before voting begins on a voting
7 system, the general custodian of election records shall conduct a
8 logic and accuracy test. Public notice of the test must be published
9 on the county's Internet website, if the county maintains an
10 Internet website, or on the bulletin board used for posting notice
11 of meetings of the commissioners court if the county does not
12 maintain an Internet website, at least 48 hours before the test
13 begins, and the test must be open to the public.

14 SECTION 13. Section 181.006(k), Election Code, is amended
15 to read as follows:

16 (k) The secretary of state shall post a notice of the
17 receipt of a petition on the secretary of state's Internet website
18 and may post the notice on a bulletin board used for posting notice
19 of meetings of state governmental bodies. Any person may challenge
20 the validity of the petition by filing a written statement of the
21 challenge with the secretary of state not later than the fifth day
22 after the date notice is posted. The secretary of state may verify
23 the petition signatures regardless of whether the petition is
24 timely challenged.

25 SECTION 14. Section 203.012(c), Election Code, is amended
26 to read as follows:

27 (c) The secretary of state shall post, on the secretary of

1 state's Internet website [~~bulletin board used for posting notice of~~
2 ~~meetings of state governmental bodies~~], a notice of the date, hour,
3 and place of the canvass at least 24 hours before the canvass is
4 conducted.

5 SECTION 15. Section 274.002(c), Election Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (c) The secretary of state shall post on the secretary of
8 state's Internet website and may post on a bulletin board for
9 posting notice of a meeting of a state governmental body a notice of
10 the date, hour, and place of the drawing. The notice must remain
11 posted continuously for 72 hours immediately preceding the
12 scheduled time of the drawing.

13 SECTION 16. (a) Not later than September 1, 2019, the
14 secretary of state shall post the information as required by
15 Section 31.016, Election Code, as added by this Act.

16 (b) Not later than October 1, 2019, a county that on
17 September 1, 2019, maintains an Internet website shall post
18 information as required by Section 31.125, Election Code, as added
19 by this Act.

20 SECTION 17. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 933 was passed by the House on April 25, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 135, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 933 on May 23, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 133, Nays 6, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 933 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 19, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor