

By: Meza

H.B. No. 1138

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the registration of voters at a polling place and related procedures.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 63, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 63.013 to read as follows:

Sec. 63.013. REGISTRATION AT POLLING PLACE; VOTING PROCEDURES. (a) Other applicable provisions of this code apply to the conduct of voting and to the registration of voters under this section to the extent those provisions do not conflict with this section.

(b) A person who would be eligible to vote in an election under Section 11.001, but for the requirement to be a registered voter, shall be accepted for voting in the precinct of the person's residence if, on the day the person offers to vote, the person:

(1) submits a voter registration application that complies with Section 13.002 to an elected official at the polling place; and

(2) presents as proof of identification:

(A) a Texas driver's license, including a temporary license or instruction permit, or personal identification card issued to the person by the Department of Public Safety that states the person's current address on the day the person seeks to vote; or

1 (B) a utility bill addressed to the person dated
2 not earlier than the 30th day before the date the person seeks to
3 vote, and:

4 (i) a Texas driver's license, including a
5 temporary license or instruction permit, or personal
6 identification card issued to the person by the Department of
7 Public Safety, regardless of whether the address stated on the
8 license or card is current on the day the person seeks to vote; or

9 (ii) a valid United States passport issued
10 to the person; or

11 (iii) a valid United States military
12 identification card that contains the person's photograph.

13 (c) Persons voting under this section shall be processed
14 separately at the polling place from persons who are voting under
15 regular procedures.

16 (d) The Secretary of State shall adopt rules to ensure the
17 accountability of election officers and to fairly implement this
18 section.

19 SECTION 2. Section 85.031(a), Election Code, is amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (a) For each person entitled to vote an early voting ballot
22 by personal appearance or entitled to register at a polling place,
23 the early voting clerk shall follow the procedure for accepting or
24 registering a regular voter on election day, with the modifications
25 necessary for the conduct of early voting.

26 SECTION 3. The secretary of state shall adopt rules as
27 required by Section 63.013, Election Code, as added by this Act, not

1 later than January 1, 2020.

2 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
3 an election for which early voting by personal appearance begins on
4 or after January 1, 2020.

5 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect January 1, 2020.