

By: Vo

H.B. No. 2599

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the manner of reporting and maintaining certain
3 information relating to election returns.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 67.007(a), (c), and (d), Election Code,
6 are amended to read as follows:

7 (a) For each election for a statewide, ~~or~~ district,
8 county, or precinct office, a statewide measure, or president and
9 vice-president of the United States, the county clerk of each
10 county in the territory covered by the election shall prepare
11 county election returns.

12 (c) The county clerk shall certify ~~sign~~ the county returns
13 ~~[to certify their accuracy]~~.

14 (d) Not later than 24 hours after completion of the local
15 canvass, the county clerk shall deliver to the secretary of state,
16 in the manner directed by the secretary, the county returns ~~[in a~~
17 ~~sealed envelope]~~. ~~[The envelope shall be labeled: "Election~~
18 ~~Returns for _____ (name) County, for _____ (election)."]~~

19 SECTION 2. Sections 67.008(b) and (c), Election Code, are
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (b) The returns shall be delivered to the secretary of state
22 as provided by Section 67.007. ~~[, except that the envelope shall be~~
23 ~~labeled: "Returns of Election for Governor/Lieutenant Governor,~~
24 ~~_____ (name) County, for _____ (election)."]~~

1 (c) The secretary of state shall retain the returns [~~in~~
2 ~~their sealed condition~~] until the first day of the next regular
3 legislative session, when the secretary shall deliver the returns
4 to the speaker of the house of representatives.

5 SECTION 3. Section 67.009(b), Election Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (b) With the delivery of the official county returns forms,
8 the secretary of state shall deliver [~~+~~

9 [~~(1)~~] written instructions on the preparation and
10 delivery of the county election returns [~~+~~ and

11 [~~(2) the officially prescribed envelopes for~~
12 ~~delivering the returns to the secretary~~].

13 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.