

1-1 By: Klick, Lang (Senate Sponsor - Hughes) H.B. No. 2911
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2019;
 1-3 May 7, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on State
 1-4 Affairs; May 14, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 14, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to voter registration.
 1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-21 SECTION 1. Section 13.002(i), Election Code, is amended to
 1-22 read as follows:
 1-23 (i) An applicant who wishes to receive an exemption from the
 1-24 requirements of Section 63.001(b) on the basis of disability must
 1-25 submit [~~include with the person's application~~]:
 1-26 (1) written documentation:
 1-27 (A) from the United States Social Security
 1-28 Administration evidencing the applicant has been determined to have
 1-29 a disability; or
 1-30 (B) from the United States Department of Veterans
 1-31 Affairs evidencing the applicant has a disability rating of at
 1-32 least 50 percent; and
 1-33 (2) a statement in a form prescribed by the secretary
 1-34 of state that the applicant does not have a form of identification
 1-35 acceptable under Section 63.0101.
 1-36 SECTION 2. Section 13.004(c), Election Code, is amended to
 1-37 read as follows:
 1-38 (c) The following information furnished on a registration
 1-39 application is confidential and does not constitute public
 1-40 information for purposes of Chapter 552, Government Code:
 1-41 (1) a social security number;
 1-42 (2) a Texas driver's license number;
 1-43 (3) a number of a personal identification card issued
 1-44 by the Department of Public Safety;
 1-45 (4) [~~an indication that an applicant is interested in~~
 1-46 ~~working as an election judge,~~
 1-47 [~~5~~] the residence address of the applicant, if the
 1-48 applicant is a federal judge or state judge, as defined by Section
 1-49 13.0021, the spouse of a federal judge or state judge, or an
 1-50 individual to whom Section 552.1175, Government Code, applies and
 1-51 the applicant:
 1-52 (A) included an affidavit with the registration
 1-53 application describing the applicant's status under this
 1-54 subdivision, including an affidavit under Section 13.0021 if the
 1-55 applicant is a federal judge or state judge or the spouse of a
 1-56 federal judge or state judge;
 1-57 (B) provided the registrar with an affidavit
 1-58 describing the applicant's status under this subdivision,
 1-59 including an affidavit under Section 15.0215 if the applicant is a
 1-60 federal judge or state judge or the spouse of a federal judge or
 1-61 state judge; or

2-1 (C) provided the registrar with a completed form
2-2 approved by the secretary of state for the purpose of notifying the
2-3 registrar of the applicant's status under this subdivision;

2-4 (5) [~~6~~] the residence address of the applicant, if
2-5 the applicant, the applicant's child, or another person in the
2-6 applicant's household is a victim of family violence as defined by
2-7 Section 71.004, Family Code, who provided the registrar with:

2-8 (A) a copy of a protective order issued under
2-9 Chapter 85, Family Code, or a magistrate's order for emergency
2-10 protection issued under Article 17.292, Code of Criminal Procedure;
2-11 or

2-12 (B) other independent documentary evidence
2-13 necessary to show that the applicant, the applicant's child, or
2-14 another person in the applicant's household is a victim of family
2-15 violence;

2-16 (6) [~~7~~] the residence address of the applicant, if
2-17 the applicant, the applicant's child, or another person in the
2-18 applicant's household is a victim of sexual assault or abuse,
2-19 stalking, or trafficking of persons who provided the registrar
2-20 with:

2-21 (A) a copy of a protective order issued under
2-22 Chapter 7A or Article 6.09, Code of Criminal Procedure, or a
2-23 magistrate's order for emergency protection issued under Article
2-24 17.292, Code of Criminal Procedure; or

2-25 (B) other independent documentary evidence
2-26 necessary to show that the applicant, the applicant's child, or
2-27 another person in the applicant's household is a victim of sexual
2-28 assault or abuse, stalking, or trafficking of persons; or

2-29 (7) [~~8~~] the residence address of the applicant, if
2-30 the applicant:

2-31 (A) is a participant in the address
2-32 confidentiality program administered by the attorney general under
2-33 Subchapter C, Chapter 56, Code of Criminal Procedure; and

2-34 (B) provided the registrar with proof of
2-35 certification under Article 56.84, Code of Criminal Procedure.

2-36 SECTION 3. Section 13.072(d), Election Code, is amended to
2-37 read as follows:

2-38 (d) If an application clearly indicates that the applicant
2-39 resides in another county, the registrar shall forward the
2-40 application to the other county's registrar not later than the
2-41 second day after the date the application is received [~~and, if the~~
2-42 ~~other county is not contiguous, shall deliver written notice of~~
2-43 ~~that action to the applicant not later than the seventh day after~~
2-44 ~~the date the application is received]. The date of submission of a~~
2-45 completed application to the wrong registrar is considered to be
2-46 the date of submission to the proper registrar for purposes of
2-47 determining the effective date of the registration.

2-48 SECTION 4. Section 13.142(a), Election Code, is amended to
2-49 read as follows:

2-50 (a) After approval of a registration application, the
2-51 registrar shall:

2-52 (1) prepare a voter registration certificate [~~in~~
2-53 ~~duplicate~~] and issue the original certificate to the applicant; and

2-54 (2) enter the applicant's county election precinct
2-55 number and registration number on the applicant's registration
2-56 application.

2-57 SECTION 5. Section 13.143(d-2), Election Code, is amended
2-58 to read as follows:

2-59 (d-2) For a registration application submitted by
2-60 telephonic facsimile machine to be effective, a copy of the
2-61 original registration application containing the voter's original
2-62 signature must be submitted by personal delivery or mail and be
2-63 received by the registrar not later than the fourth business day
2-64 after the transmission by telephonic facsimile machine is received.

2-65 SECTION 6. Section 15.001(a), Election Code, is amended to
2-66 read as follows:

2-67 (a) Each voter registration certificate issued must
2-68 contain:

2-69 (1) the voter's name in the form indicated by the

- 3-1 voter, subject to applicable requirements prescribed by Section
 3-2 13.002 and by rule of the secretary of state;
- 3-3 (2) the voter's residence address or, if the residence
 3-4 has no address, the address at which the voter receives mail and a
 3-5 concise description of the location of the voter's residence;
- 3-6 (3) the ~~[month, day, and]~~ year of the voter's birth;
- 3-7 (4) the number of the county election precinct in
 3-8 which the voter resides;
- 3-9 (5) the voter's effective date of registration if an
 3-10 initial certificate;
- 3-11 (6) the voter's registration number;
- 3-12 (7) an indication of the period for which the
 3-13 certificate is issued;
- 3-14 (8) a statement explaining the circumstances under
 3-15 which the voter will receive a new certificate;
- 3-16 (9) a space for stamping the voter's political party
 3-17 affiliation;
- 3-18 (10) a statement that voting with the certificate by a
 3-19 person other than the person in whose name the certificate is issued
 3-20 is a felony;
- 3-21 (11) a space for the voter's signature;
- 3-22 (12) a statement that the voter must sign the
 3-23 certificate personally, if able to sign, immediately on receipt;
- 3-24 (13) a space for the voter to correct the information
 3-25 on the certificate followed by a signature line;
- 3-26 (14) the statement: "If any information on this
 3-27 certificate changes or is incorrect, correct the information in the
 3-28 space provided, sign below, and return this certificate to the
 3-29 voter registrar.";
- 3-30 (15) the registrar's mailing address and telephone
 3-31 number; and
- 3-32 (16) the jurisdictional or distinguishing number for
 3-33 the following territorial units in which the voter resides, as
 3-34 determined by the voter registrar:
- 3-35 (A) congressional district;
- 3-36 (B) state senatorial district;
- 3-37 (C) state representative district;
- 3-38 (D) commissioners precinct;
- 3-39 (E) justice precinct;
- 3-40 (F) city election precinct; and
- 3-41 (G) school district election precinct.

3-42 SECTION 7. Section 15.022(a), Election Code, is amended to
 3-43 read as follows:

3-44 (a) The registrar shall make the appropriate corrections in
 3-45 the registration records, including, if necessary, deleting a
 3-46 voter's name from the suspense list:

- 3-47 (1) after receipt of a notice of a change in
 3-48 registration information under Section 15.021;
- 3-49 (2) after receipt of a voter's reply to a notice of
 3-50 investigation given under Section 16.033;
- 3-51 (3) after receipt of any affidavits executed under
 3-52 Section 63.006, following an election;
- 3-53 (4) after receipt of a voter's statement of residence
 3-54 executed under Section 63.0011;
- 3-55 (5) before the effective date of the abolishment of a
 3-56 county election precinct or a change in its boundary;
- 3-57 (6) after receipt of United States Postal Service
 3-58 information indicating an address reclassification;
- 3-59 (7) after receipt of a voter's response under Section
 3-60 15.053; ~~[or]~~
- 3-61 (8) after receipt of a registration application or
 3-62 change of address under Chapter 20; or
- 3-63 (9) on discovering a data entry error has been made.

3-64 SECTION 8. Section 15.023, Election Code, is amended to
 3-65 read as follows:

3-66 Sec. 15.023. TIME FOR CERTAIN DELETIONS FROM SUSPENSE LIST.
 3-67 If the name of a voter ~~[whose residence is changed]~~ on the list of
 3-68 registered voters ~~[registration records to another county election~~
 3-69 ~~precinct in the same county]~~ appears on the suspense list, the

4-1 voter's name shall be deleted from the list on the date the voter
 4-2 provides a completed application to register to vote in accordance
 4-3 with Section 13.002 [~~voter's registration in the precinct of new~~
 4-4 ~~residence becomes effective~~].

4-5 SECTION 9. Section 15.051(d), Election Code, is amended to
 4-6 read as follows:

4-7 (d) The registrar shall maintain with the voter's record an
 4-8 indication that a confirmation notice was sent to the voter [~~a list~~
 4-9 ~~of the confirmation notices mailed to voters, which for each notice~~
 4-10 ~~must include the voter's name and the date the notice is mailed.~~
 4-11 ~~The registrar shall maintain and retain the list in accordance with~~
 4-12 ~~rules prescribed by the secretary of state~~].

4-13 SECTION 10. Section 15.053(a), Election Code, is amended to
 4-14 read as follows:

4-15 (a) The [~~Not later than the 30th day after the date a~~
 4-16 ~~confirmation notice is mailed, the~~] voter shall submit to the
 4-17 registrar a written, signed response to the notice that confirms
 4-18 the voter's current residence. The response must contain all of
 4-19 the information that a person must include in an application to
 4-20 register to vote under Section 13.002.

4-21 SECTION 11. Section 15.082(b), Election Code, is amended to
 4-22 read as follows:

4-23 (b) The [~~fee for each~~] list shall be provided in accordance
 4-24 with Chapter 552, Government Code [~~or portion of a list furnished~~
 4-25 ~~under this section may not exceed the actual expense incurred in~~
 4-26 ~~reproducing the list or portion for the person requesting it and~~
 4-27 ~~shall be uniform for each type of copy furnished. The registrar~~
 4-28 ~~shall make reasonable efforts to minimize the reproduction~~
 4-29 ~~expenses~~].

4-30 SECTION 12. Section 16.031(a), Election Code, is amended to
 4-31 read as follows:

4-32 (a) The registrar shall cancel a voter's registration
 4-33 immediately on receipt of:

4-34 (1) notice under Section 13.072(b), [~~or~~] 15.021, or
 4-35 18.0681(d) or a response under Section 15.053 that the voter's
 4-36 residence is outside the county;

4-37 (2) an abstract of the voter's death certificate under
 4-38 Section 16.001(a) or an abstract of an application indicating that
 4-39 the voter is deceased under Section 16.001(b);

4-40 (3) an abstract of a final judgment of the voter's
 4-41 total mental incapacity, partial mental incapacity without the
 4-42 right to vote, conviction of a felony, or disqualification under
 4-43 Section 16.002, 16.003, or 16.004;

4-44 (4) notice under Section 112.012 that the voter has
 4-45 applied for a limited ballot in another county;

4-46 (5) notice from a voter registration official in
 4-47 another state that the voter has registered to vote outside this
 4-48 state;

4-49 (6) notice from the early voting clerk under Section
 4-50 101.053 that a federal postcard application submitted by an
 4-51 applicant states a voting residence address located outside the
 4-52 registrar's county; or

4-53 (7) notice from the secretary of state that the voter
 4-54 has registered to vote in another county, as determined by the
 4-55 voter's driver's license number or personal identification card
 4-56 number issued by the Department of Public Safety or social security
 4-57 number.

4-58 SECTION 13. Section 16.032, Election Code, is amended to
 4-59 read as follows:

4-60 Sec. 16.032. CANCELLATION FOLLOWING END OF SUSPENSE LIST
 4-61 PERIOD. If on November 30 following the second general election for
 4-62 state and county officers that occurs after the date the voter's
 4-63 name is entered on the suspense list a registered voter's name
 4-64 appears on the suspense list, the registrar shall cancel the
 4-65 voter's registration unless the name is to be deleted from the list
 4-66 under Section 15.022 or 15.023.

4-67 SECTION 14. Sections 16.0921(a) and (b), Election Code, are
 4-68 amended to read as follows:

4-69 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (c), on the filing of a

5-1 sworn statement under Section 16.092 alleging a ground based on
 5-2 residence, the registrar shall promptly deliver to the voter whose
 5-3 registration is challenged a confirmation notice in accordance with
 5-4 Section 15.051, unless the residential address provided in the
 5-5 challenge for the voter is different from the voter's current
 5-6 residential address indicated on the registration records.

5-7 (b) If the voter is delivered a confirmation notice [~~fails~~
 5-8 ~~to submit a response to the registrar in accordance with Section~~
 5-9 ~~15.053~~], the registrar shall enter the voter's name on the suspense
 5-10 list.

5-11 SECTION 15. Section 18.002(c), Election Code, is amended to
 5-12 read as follows:

5-13 (c) An additional copy of each list shall be furnished for
 5-14 use in early voting and as needed in order to ensure all voters
 5-15 eligible to vote in an election appear correctly on the original
 5-16 list.

5-17 SECTION 16. Section 18.003(c), Election Code, is amended to
 5-18 read as follows:

5-19 (c) An additional copy of each list shall be furnished for
 5-20 use in early voting and as needed in order to ensure all voters
 5-21 eligible to vote in an election appear correctly on the original
 5-22 list.

5-23 SECTION 17. Section 18.005(a), Election Code, is amended to
 5-24 read as follows:

5-25 (a) Each original and supplemental list of registered
 5-26 voters must:

5-27 (1) contain the voter's name, date of birth, and
 5-28 registration number as provided by the statewide computerized voter
 5-29 registration list;

5-30 (2) contain the voter's residence address, except as
 5-31 provided by Subsections (b) and (c) [~~or Section 18.0051~~];

5-32 (3) be arranged alphabetically by voter name; and

5-33 (4) contain the notation required by Section 15.111.

5-34 SECTION 18. Sections 18.061(b) and (d), Election Code, are
 5-35 amended to read as follows:

5-36 (b) The statewide computerized voter registration list
 5-37 must:

5-38 (1) contain the name and registration information of
 5-39 each voter registered in the state;

5-40 (2) assign a unique identifier to each registered
 5-41 voter; and

5-42 (3) be available to any county election official in
 5-43 the state through immediate electronic access.

5-44 (d) The secretary of state may contract with counties to
 5-45 provide them with electronic data services to facilitate the
 5-46 implementation and maintenance of the statewide computerized voter
 5-47 registration list. The secretary shall use funds collected under
 5-48 the contracts to defray expenses incurred in implementing and
 5-49 maintaining the statewide computerized voter registration list.

5-50 SECTION 19. Section 18.069, Election Code, is amended to
 5-51 read as follows:

5-52 Sec. 18.069. VOTING HISTORY. Not later than the 30th day
 5-53 after the date of the primary, runoff primary, or general election
 5-54 or any special election ordered by the governor, the general
 5-55 custodian of election records [~~registrar~~] shall electronically
 5-56 submit to the secretary of state the record of each voter
 5-57 participating in the election. The record must include a notation
 5-58 of whether the voter voted on election day, voted early by personal
 5-59 appearance, voted early by mail under Chapter 86, or voted early by
 5-60 mail under Chapter 101.

5-61 SECTION 20. Section 18.0681(d), Election Code, is amended
 5-62 to read as follows:

5-63 (d) If the secretary of state determines that a voter on the
 5-64 registration list has more than one registration record on file
 5-65 based on a strong match, the secretary shall send notice of the
 5-66 determination to the voter registrar of the [~~each~~] county with the
 5-67 oldest registration record in which the voter is registered to
 5-68 vote. If the voter records identified are:

5-69 (1) located in the same county, the voter registrar

6-1 may merge the records following a determination that each record
6-2 belongs to the same voter using the procedure for the correction of
6-3 registration records under Section 15.022; or

6-4 (2) located in more than one county, the registrar of
6-5 the county with the oldest record may deliver a written
6-6 confirmation notice in accordance with Section 15.051 or cancel the
6-7 registration of the voter in accordance with Section 16.031(a)(1),
6-8 provided that the voter's record in the county with the newest
6-9 registration record is not on the suspense list.

6-10 SECTION 21. The following provisions of the Election Code
6-11 are repealed:

- 6-12 (1) Sections 15.082(c) and (d);
- 6-13 (2) Subchapter F, Chapter 15;
- 6-14 (3) Section 18.0051; and
- 6-15 (4) Section 18.008(c).

6-16 SECTION 22. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

6-17 * * * * *