

By: Bailes

H.B. No. 4245

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the percentage of voters needed to sign a petition
3 requesting a local option election to prohibit or authorize the
4 sale of alcoholic beverages.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 501.032(a), Election Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) The commissioners court, at its next regular session on
9 or after the 30th day after the date the petition is filed, shall
10 order a local option election to be held on the issue set out in the
11 petition if the petition is filed with the voter registrar not later
12 than the 60th day after the date the petition is issued and bears
13 the actual signatures of a number of qualified voters of the
14 political subdivision equal to at least:

15 (1) 20 [~~35~~] percent of the registered voters in the
16 subdivision who voted in the most recent gubernatorial election for
17 a ballot issue that permits voting for or against:

18 (A) "The legal sale of all alcoholic beverages
19 for off-premise consumption only.";

20 (B) "The legal sale of all alcoholic beverages
21 except mixed beverages.";

22 (C) "The legal sale of all alcoholic beverages
23 including mixed beverages."; or

24 (D) "The legal sale of mixed beverages.";

1 (2) 20 [~~25~~] percent of the registered voters in the
2 political subdivision who voted in the most recent general election
3 for a ballot issue that permits voting for or against "The legal
4 sale of wine on the premises of a holder of a winery permit."; or

5 (3) 20 [~~35~~] percent of the registered voters in the
6 political subdivision who voted in the most recent gubernatorial
7 election for an election on any other ballot issue.

8 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
9 a petition filed on or after the effective date of this Act. A
10 petition filed before the effective date of this Act is governed by
11 the law in effect when the petition is filed, and the former law is
12 continued in effect for that purpose.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.