

By: Swanson

H.B. No. 4540

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to verification of the citizenship status of certain  
3 registered voters.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 16.0332(a), Election Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (a) After the registrar receives notification [~~a list~~]  
8 under Section 18.068 of this code or Section 62.113, Government  
9 Code, of persons excused or disqualified from jury service because  
10 of citizenship status or who have indicated a lack of citizenship  
11 status in connection with a motor vehicle record, the registrar  
12 shall deliver to each registered voter whose name appears on the  
13 list a written notice requiring the voter to submit to the registrar  
14 proof of United States citizenship in the form of a certified copy  
15 of the voter's birth certificate, United States passport, or  
16 certificate of naturalization or any other form prescribed by the  
17 secretary of state. The notice shall be delivered by forwardable  
18 mail to the mailing address on the voter's registration application  
19 and to any new address of the voter known to the registrar.

20 SECTION 2. Sections 18.068(a) and (b), Election Code, are  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (a) The secretary of state shall quarterly compare the  
23 information received under Section 16.001 of this code, [~~and~~]  
24 Section 62.113, Government Code, and Section 730.005(9),

1 Transportation Code, to the statewide computerized voter  
2 registration list. If the secretary determines that a voter on the  
3 registration list is deceased, ~~[or]~~ has been excused or  
4 disqualified from jury service because the voter is not a citizen,  
5 or has indicated the voter is not a citizen in connection with a  
6 motor vehicle record, the secretary shall send notice of the  
7 determination to the voter registrar of the counties considered  
8 appropriate by the secretary.

9 (b) The secretary of state shall by rule determine what  
10 information combinations identified as common to a voter and to an  
11 individual for whom the secretary of state has received information  
12 under this section ~~[who is deceased]~~ constitute a weak match or a  
13 strong match in order to:

14 (1) produce the least possible impact on Texas voters;  
15 and

16 (2) fulfill its responsibility to manage the voter  
17 rolls.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.