By:  Hall S.B. No. 26

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study on the effect of a change to the period for voting.

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

SECTION 1.  (a) The secretary of state shall conduct a

study regarding the practical effects of eliminating the gap between the early voting period for an election and election day and providing for the conduct of elections with a single election period.

(b)  The study must include:

(1)  best practices and policies of states that conduct elections with a single election period;

(2)  a cost-benefit analysis comparing the use of hand marked paper ballots, ballot marking devices, and direct recording electronic voting machines in elections with a single election period;

(3)  comparison of the estimated costs of conducting elections with a single election period versus the costs of conducting elections with a gap between the early voting period for the election and election day; and

(4)  recommended statutory language for implementing the conduct of elections with a single election period.

(c)  The secretary of state shall, not later than January 1,2022, submit a report on the secretary's findings to the legislature.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.