

By: Thompson of Brazoria

H.B. No. 144

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to changing the date of an election during a declared disaster.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 41, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 41.0012 to read as follows:

Sec. 41.0012. EMERGENCY REQUIRING POSTPONED ELECTION. (a)

This section applies only during a state of disaster or emergency declared by the president of the United States or a state of disaster declared by the governor under Chapter 418, Government Code.

(b) Unless otherwise ordered by the governor, the governing body of a political subdivision, other than a county, that holds an election on a date other than the November uniform election date may postpone the election to the third Saturday in August.

(c) A governing body postponing an election under this section shall adjust the terms of office to conform to the new election date.

(d) A change authorized under this section adopted in a resolution by a home-rule city supersedes a city charter provision to the extent of any conflict.

SECTION 2. This Act applies only to an election ordered on or after the effective date of this Act. An election ordered before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law as it existed

1 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is
2 continued in effect for that purpose.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the
4 last day of the legislative session.