

By: Patterson

H.B. No. 156

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the applicability to election judges of a prohibition
3 on the carrying of a handgun at a polling place.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 46.15, Penal Code, is amended by adding
6 Subsection (s) to read as follows:

7 (s) Section 46.03(a)(2) does not apply to a person who
8 carries a handgun if the person:

9 (1) is licensed to carry a handgun under Subchapter H,
10 Chapter 411, Government Code; and

11 (2) is engaged in the performance of the person's
12 duties as a presiding judge or alternate presiding judge under
13 Chapter 32, Election Code:

14 (A) while early voting is in progress; or

15 (B) on the day of an election.

16 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
17 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
18 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
19 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
20 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
21 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
22 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense was
23 committed before that date.

24 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2022.