

By: Hall

S.B. No. 26

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to a study on the effect of a change to the period for  
3 voting.

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

5 SECTION 1. (a) The secretary of state shall conduct a  
6 study regarding the practical effects of eliminating the gap  
7 between the early voting period for an election and election day and  
8 providing for the conduct of elections with a single election  
9 period.

10 (b) The study must include:

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

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

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

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

23 (c) The secretary of state shall, not later than January  
24 1,2022, submit a report on the secretary's findings to the

1 legislature.

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