By:  Zaffirini S.B. No. 1901

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to ensuring political subdivisions hold elections required by law.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 31.005, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 31.005.  PROTECTION OF VOTING RIGHTS. (a) The secretary of state may take appropriate action to protect the voting rights of the citizens of this state from abuse by the authorities administering the state's electoral processes.

(b)  If the secretary determines that a person performing official functions in the administration of any part of the electoral processes is exercising the powers vested in that person:

(1)  in a manner that impedes the free exercise of a citizen's voting rights; or

(2)  to unduly delay or cancel an election they are legally required to hold without obtaining prior approval from the Secretary of State or a court of competent jurisdiction,

the secretary may order the person to correct the offending conduct. If the person fails to comply, the secretary may seek enforcement of the order by a temporary restraining order or a writ of injunction or mandamus obtained through the attorney general.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.