

By: González of Dallas

H.B. No. 481

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to days and hours for voting during the early voting
3 period.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 85.005(c), Election Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (c) In a county with a population of 50,000 [~~100,000~~] or
8 more, the voting in a primary election or the general election for
9 state and county officers shall be conducted at the main early
10 voting polling place for at least 12 hours on each weekday of the
11 last week of the early voting period, and the voting in a special
12 election ordered by the governor shall be conducted at the main
13 early voting polling place for at least 12 hours on each of the last
14 two days of the early voting period. Voting shall be conducted in
15 accordance with this subsection in those elections in a county with
16 a population under 50,000 [~~100,000~~] on receipt by the early voting
17 clerk of a written request for the extended hours submitted by at
18 least 15 registered voters of the county. The request must be
19 submitted not later than the 60th day before the date early voting
20 begins [~~in time to enable compliance with Section 85.067~~].

21 SECTION 2. Section 85.006(e), Election Code, is amended to
22 read as follows:

23 (e) In a primary election or the general election for state
24 and county officers in a county with a population of 50,000

1 [100,000] or more, the early voting clerk shall order personal
2 appearance voting at the main early voting polling place to be
3 conducted for at least 12 hours on the last Saturday and for at
4 least five hours on the last Sunday of the early voting period. The
5 early voting clerk shall order voting to be conducted at those times
6 in those elections in a county with a population under 50,000
7 [~~100,000~~] on receipt of a written request for those hours submitted
8 by at least 15 registered voters of the county. The request must be
9 submitted not later than the 60th day before the date early voting
10 begins [~~in time to enable compliance with Section 85.007~~]. This
11 subsection supersedes any provision of this subchapter to the
12 extent of any conflict.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.