

By: Bucy

H.B. No. 1382

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to an electronic system to monitor the status of a ballot
3 voted by mail application and ballot.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 86, Election Code, is amended by adding
6 Section 86.015 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 86.015. ELECTRONIC TRACKING FOR APPLICATION FOR BALLOT
8 VOTED BY MAIL OR BALLOT VOTED BY MAIL. (a) The early voting clerk
9 shall develop and maintain an electronic system that allows a
10 voter, using the Internet website of the early voting clerk, to
11 monitor the status of:

12 (1) the voter's application for a ballot voted by mail;
13 and

14 (2) the voter's ballot voted by mail.

15 (b) The system developed under Subsection (a) must require
16 the voter to provide, before permitting the voter to access
17 information described by that subsection:

18 (1) the voter's name and voter registration number or
19 registration address; and

20 (2) the voter's:

21 (A) driver's license number;

22 (B) personal identification card number issued
23 by the Department of Public Safety; or

24 (C) social security number.

1 (c) The system must update the early voting clerk's Internet
2 website as soon as practicable after each of the following events
3 occurs:

4 (1) receipt by the early voting clerk of the person's
5 application for a ballot to be voted by mail;

6 (2) acceptance or rejection by the early voting clerk
7 of the person's application for a ballot to be voted by mail;

8 (3) placement in the mail by the early voting clerk of
9 the person's official ballot;

10 (4) receipt by the early voting clerk of the person's
11 marked ballot; and

12 (5) acceptance or rejection by the early voting ballot
13 board of a person's marked ballot.

14 (d) The information contained in Subsection (c) is public
15 information for the purposes of Chapter 552, Government Code.

16 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply
17 beginning with an application for a ballot to be voted by mail for
18 an election held on or after January 1, 2022.

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