

By: González of El Paso

H.B. No. 2202

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to high school deputy voter registrars.

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

SECTION 1. Section 13.046, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsections (d) and (h) and adding Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

(d) At least twice each school year, a high school deputy registrar shall distribute an officially prescribed registration application form to each student who is or will be 18 years of age or older during that year, subject to rules prescribed by the secretary of state. At least one such distribution must be made not later than the 31st day before the uniform election date in November.

(e-1) At least once each school year, the high school deputy registrar shall provide instruction to the students at the registrar's school, emphasizing:

(1) the importance of voting;
(2) the process of voter registration;
(3) the nature of voting systems;
(4) relevant election dates;
(5) the early voting process; and
(6) the regular locations and hours of local polling places.

(h) The secretary of state shall:

1 (1) consult with the Texas Education Agency regarding
2 the number of registration application forms to provide to each
3 high school deputy registrar for distribution and provide the forms
4 at the beginning of each academic year;

5 (2) develop and implement a system for monitoring
6 which high schools complete the requirements under Subsection (d);

7 (3) issue a report at the end of each academic year
8 describing the degree to which high schools completed the
9 requirements under Subsection (d);

10 (4) proactively support high school deputy registrars
11 in completion of the requirements under Subsection (d), including
12 public acknowledgement of the high school deputy registrars who
13 consistently succeed in efforts to register students to vote;

14 (5) create a standardized training course for high
15 school deputy registrars to be taken over the Internet to instruct
16 the registrars in regard to best practices and their duties and
17 rights, and any other training the secretary sees fit; and

18 (6) prescribe any additional procedures necessary to
19 implement this section.

20 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
21 school year.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.