

1-1 By: Hughes, Springer S.B. No. 1235
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 9, 2021; March 18, 2021, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
 1-4 April 1, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6,
 1-5 Nays 3; April 1, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7	X			
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12		X		
1-13	X			
1-14		X		
1-15	X			
1-16		X		

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to verification of the accuracy of voter registration
 1-20 applications and voter registration lists.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 18.068, Election Code, is amended to
 1-23 read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 18.068. COMPARISON OF INFORMATION REGARDING
 1-25 INELIGIBILITY. (a) The secretary of state shall quarterly compare
 1-26 the information received under Section 16.001 of this code and
 1-27 Section 62.113, Government Code, to the statewide computerized
 1-28 voter registration list.

1-29 (a-1) The secretary of state shall enter into an agreement
 1-30 with the Department of Public Safety under which information in the
 1-31 statewide computerized voter registration list is compared against
 1-32 information in the database of the Department of Public Safety on a
 1-33 monthly basis to verify the accuracy of information provided on
 1-34 voter registration applications. The information compared must
 1-35 include, at a minimum, a voter's:

- 1-36 (1) full legal name;
- 1-37 (2) former name, if applicable;
- 1-38 (3) date of birth;
- 1-39 (4) residence address;
- 1-40 (5) driver's license or state identification card

1-41 number;

- 1-42 (6) signature;
- 1-43 (7) social security number;
- 1-44 (8) documentation of lawful presence in this state;

1-45 and

- 1-46 (9) citizenship status.

1-47 (a-2) If the secretary determines from information received
 1-48 under Subsection (a) or (a-1) that a voter on the registration list
 1-49 may be ineligible to vote [is deceased or has been excused or
 1-50 disqualified from jury service because the voter is not a citizen],
 1-51 the secretary shall send notice of the determination to the voter
 1-52 registrar of the counties considered appropriate by the secretary.

1-53 (b) The secretary of state shall by rule determine what
 1-54 information combinations identified as common to a voter and to an
 1-55 individual who is deceased or ineligible to vote constitute a weak
 1-56 match or a strong match in order to:

- 1-57 (1) produce the least possible impact on Texas voters;

1-58 and

- 1-59 (2) fulfill its responsibility to manage the voter

1-60 rolls.

1-61 (c) The secretary of state may not determine that a voter is

2-1 deceased or ineligible to vote based on a weak match. The
2-2 secretary of state may inform the county of the voter's residence
2-3 that a weak match exists.

2-4 (d) On receiving notification from the secretary of state
2-5 under Subsection (c) that a weak match of identifying information
2-6 exists for a county voter and an individual who is deceased or
2-7 ineligible to vote, the county shall investigate whether the voter
2-8 is that ~~[the]~~ individual ~~[who is deceased]~~.

2-9 (e) The secretary of state may determine that a voter is
2-10 deceased or ineligible to vote based on a strong match.

2-11 (f) The secretary of state may obtain, for purposes of
2-12 determining whether a voter is deceased or ineligible to vote,
2-13 information from other state agency databases relating to a voter
2-14 that is the same type of information that the secretary of state or
2-15 a voter registrar collects or stores for voter registration
2-16 purposes.

2-17 (g) Not later than December 31 of each year, the secretary
2-18 of state shall provide a report to the legislature of the number of
2-19 voters determined to be ineligible under this section during the
2-20 calendar year. The report must include the reason for
2-21 ineligibility for each voter.

2-22 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
2-23 an application to register to vote submitted on or after the
2-24 effective date of this Act.

2-25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

2-26

* * * * *