

1-1 By: Creighton S.B. No. 1508
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2021; March 24, 2021, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
 1-4 April 21, 2021, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 3; April 21, 2021,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
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		X		

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1508 By: Lucio

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the establishment of the election integrity division in
 1-22 the office of the attorney general.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 273, Election Code, is
 1-25 amended by adding Section 273.0025 to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 273.0025. REQUEST FOR RECORDS. (a) An election
 1-27 official or political subdivision shall promptly provide access to
 1-28 election records requested by a law enforcement officer or
 1-29 prosecutor in connection with an investigation under this
 1-30 subchapter.

1-31 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code,
 1-32 copies of records and information provided pursuant to Subsection
 1-33 (a) or another section of this code shall be provided in an
 1-34 unredacted format and shall, upon request, be certified by the
 1-35 official providing the records.

1-36 (c) A request made under this section is not a public
 1-37 information request under Chapter 552, Government Code, and the
 1-38 records and information provided under this section are
 1-39 confidential. The original election records in the custody of an
 1-40 election official or political subdivision remain subject to
 1-41 existing law, but must be retained pending the final outcome of any
 1-42 investigation and resulting litigation, including appeal.

1-43 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 402, Government Code, is
 1-44 amended by adding Section 402.0385 to read as follows:

1-45 Sec. 402.0385. ELECTION INTEGRITY DIVISION. (a) The
 1-46 office of the attorney general shall establish an election
 1-47 integrity division to safeguard the integrity of elections, ensure
 1-48 public confidence in the electoral process, and investigate and
 1-49 prosecute election fraud offenses under the laws of this state.

1-50 (b) The election integrity division shall, using available
 1-51 funds or any funds appropriated to the division, investigate and
 1-52 prosecute, when appropriate, credible complaints of election fraud
 1-53 pursuant to authority granted under Chapter 273, Election Code.

1-54 (c) A law enforcement agency in this state shall assist the
 1-55 election integrity division in an investigation conducted under
 1-56 this section as requested by the division.

1-57 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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