

By: Bettencourt

S.B. No. 1663

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the administration of the countywide polling place program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 43.007, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (m) and adding Subsection (m-1) to read as follows:

(m) In adopting a methodology under Subsection (f), the county must ensure that:

(1) in a county with a population of less than one million:

(A) each county commissioners precinct contains at least one countywide polling place; and

(B) the deviation in the percentage of the total number of countywide polling places located in a commissioners precinct does not vary by more than one percentage point in a precinct; and

(2) in a county with a population of one million or more, the number of polling places located in each state representative district included in the territory of the county is calculated by dividing the number of voters residing in that district by the total number of voters residing in the county and using the number generated as a percentage to allocate the same percentage of polling place locations, rounding up to the nearest

1 whole number, if necessary [~~the total number of permanent branch~~
2 ~~and temporary branch polling places open for voting in a county~~
3 ~~commissioners precinct does not exceed more than twice the number~~
4 ~~of permanent branch and temporary branch polling places in another~~
5 ~~county commissioners precinct~~].

6 (m-1) Election officials and voting equipment, materials,
7 and supplies must be allocated to each polling place based on the
8 same percentage as polling place locations are determined under
9 Subsection (m) with no greater than a five percent deviation in the
10 allocation between polling place locations. Each polling place
11 location must be able to accommodate 100 percent of the equipment
12 allocated to be operational at the same time.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.