

House Bill 574
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. Sections 276.013(a) and (b), Election Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly or intentionally makes any effort to:

(1) influence the independent exercise of the vote of another in the presence of the ballot or during the voting process;

(2) cause a voter to become registered, a ballot to be obtained, or a vote to be cast under false pretenses; ~~or~~

(3) count invalid votes that the person knows to be invalid or alter a report to include invalid votes that the person knows to be invalid;

(4) fail to count valid votes that the person knows to be valid or alter a report to exclude valid votes that the person knows to be valid; or

(5) ~~(3)~~ cause any intentionally misleading statement, representation, or information to be provided:

(A) to an election official; or

(B) on an application for ballot by mail, carrier envelope, or any other official election-related form or document.

(b) An offense under this section is a felony of the second degree ~~[Class A misdemeanor]~~.

~~No equivalent provision.~~ *(But see SECTION 1 above.)*

SENATE VERSION (IE)

~~No equivalent provision.~~ *(But see SECTION 1 below.)*

CONFERENCE

SECTION 1. Chapter 276, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 276.014 to read as follows:

Sec. 276.014. OTHER ELECTION OFFENSES. (a) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly or intentionally makes any effort to:

(1) count votes the person knows are invalid or alter a report to include votes the person knows are invalid; or

(2) refuse to count votes the person knows are valid or alter a report to exclude votes the person knows are valid. [FA1]

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CONFERENCE

(b) An offense under this section is a felony of the second degree.

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

SECTION 2. Same as House version.