H.B. No. 357

AN ACT

relating to the requirements to access the online tracker of an application for a ballot to be voted by mail and to the date of runoff elections.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 2.025, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(a)  Except as provided by Subsection (d) or as otherwise provided by this code, a runoff election shall be held on a Saturday designated by the secretary of state [~~not earlier than the 20th or later than the 45th day after the date the final canvass of the main election is completed~~].

(e)  A date designated by the secretary of state under this section for a runoff election:

(1)  must be:

(A)  not earlier than the 30th day after the date of the main election; and

(B)  not later than the 45th day after the date of the main election; and

(2)  may not:

(A)  be a national or state holiday under Section 1.006(f); or

(B)  have an early voting period that includes a national or state holiday under Section 1.006(f).

SECTION 2.  Section 86.015(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  The online tool developed or provided under Subsection (a) must require the voter to provide, before permitting the voter to access information described by that subsection:

(1)  the voter's name and date of birth [~~registration address~~] and the last four digits of the voter's social security number; and

(2)  the voter's:

(A)  driver's license number; or

(B)  personal identification card number issued by the Department of Public Safety.

SECTION 3.  Section 2.025(b), Election Code, is repealed.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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  President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 357 was passed by the House on April 27, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 145, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 357 on May 25, 2023, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 357 on May 28, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 140, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 357 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 21, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 31, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 357 on May 28, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                 Date

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               Governor