88R3283 LRM-D

By:  Schofield H.B. No. 1140

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the voter identification required for submission of an early voting ballot by mail.

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

SECTION 1.  Sections 84.002(a) and (b-1), Election Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a)  An early voting ballot application must include:

(1)  the applicant's name and the address at which the applicant is registered to vote;

(1-a)  the following information:

(A)  the number of the applicant's driver's license, election identity certification card [~~identification certificate~~], or personal identification card issued by the Department of Public Safety;

(B)  if the applicant has not been issued a number described by Paragraph (A), the last four digits of the applicant's social security number; or

(C)  a statement by the applicant that the applicant has not been issued a number described by Paragraph (A) or (B);

(2)  for an application for a ballot to be voted by mail on the ground of absence from the county of residence, the address outside the applicant's county of residence to which the ballot is to be mailed;

(3)  for an application for a ballot to be voted by mail on the ground of age or disability, the address of the hospital, nursing home or other long-term care facility, or retirement center, or of a person related to the applicant within the second degree by affinity or the third degree by consanguinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, if the applicant is living at that address and that address is different from the address at which the applicant is registered to vote;

(4)  for an application for a ballot to be voted by mail on the ground of confinement in jail, the address of the jail or of a person related to the applicant within the degree described by Subdivision (3);

(5)  for an application for a ballot to be voted by mail on any ground, an indication of each election for which the applicant is applying for a ballot;

(6)  an indication of the ground of eligibility for early voting; and

(7)  for an application for a ballot to be voted by mail on the ground of involuntary civil commitment, the address of the facility operated by or under contract with the Texas Civil Commitment Office or of a person related to the applicant within the degree of consanguinity described by Subdivision (3).

(b-1)  A person may use the number of a driver's license, election identity certification card [~~identification certificate~~], or personal identification card that has expired for the purpose of fulfilling the requirement under Subsection (a)(1-a) if the license or identification is otherwise valid.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.