H.B. No. 1243

AN ACT

relating to the penalty for the offense of illegal voting; increasing a criminal penalty.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 64.012(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  An offense under this section is a felony of the second degree unless the person is convicted of an attempt, in which event it is a state jail felony [~~Class A misdemeanor~~].

SECTION 2.  The changes in law made by this Act apply only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.  An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.  For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

SECTION 3.  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. 1243 was passed by the House on April 28, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 88, Nays 60, 1 present, not voting; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1243 on May 26, 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. 1243 on May 28, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 86, Nays 56, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1243 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 24, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 19, Nays 11; 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. 1243 on May 28, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 19, Nays 12.

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Secretary of the Senate

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

                 Date

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               Governor