By:  Burrows (Senate Sponsor - Perry) H.B. No. 1583

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2023; May 11, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government; May 19, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 19, 2023, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                 Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Bettencourt       X

Springer          X

Eckhardt          X

Gutierrez         X

Hall              X

Nichols           X

Parker            X

Paxton            X

West              X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the election of the board of directors of the Terry Memorial Hospital District.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 1105.051(a), Special District Local Laws Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  The district is governed by a board of seven directors elected from the district at large in the manner provided by Section 1105.0515.

SECTION 2.  Subchapter B, Chapter 1105, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 1105.0515 to read as follows:

Sec. 1105.0515.  ELECTION OF DIRECTORS BY CUMULATIVE VOTING. (a) All directors shall be elected at large using the cumulative voting procedure prescribed by this section.

(b)  All director positions to be filled at the election shall be voted on as one race by all qualified voters of the district.

(c)  Each voter is entitled to cast a number of votes equal to the number of positions to be filled at the election, except that the total number of votes cast by a voter may not exceed four. A voter may cast one or more of the specified number of votes for any one or more candidates in any combination. Only whole votes may be cast and counted.

(d)  If a voter casts more than the number of votes to which the voter is entitled in the election, none of the voter's votes may be counted in that election. If a voter casts fewer votes than entitled, all of the voter's votes are counted in that election.

(e)  The candidates who are elected are those, in the number to be elected, receiving the highest numbers of votes.

(f)  The secretary of state shall prescribe any additional procedures necessary for the orderly and proper administration of an election held in accordance with this section.

SECTION 3.  Section 1105.052, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1105.052.  NOTICE OF ELECTION. Notice [~~At least 10 days before the date~~] of a directors' election[~~, notice of the election~~] must be published one time in a newspaper of general circulation in Terry County in accordance with Section 4.003, Election Code.

SECTION 4.  Section 1105.053, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1105.053.  BALLOT APPLICATION [~~PETITION~~]. A person who wants to have the person's name printed on the ballot as a candidate for director must file an application with the board secretary in accordance with Chapter 144, Election Code [~~a petition requesting that action.  The petition must be:~~

[~~(1)  signed by not fewer than 10 registered voters; and~~

[~~(2)  filed by the deadline imposed by Section 144.005, Election Code~~].

SECTION 5.  The changes in law made by this Act apply only to an election ordered on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 6.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

\* \* \* \* \*