By:  Cain (Senate Sponsor - Bettencourt) H.B. No. 3613

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 15, 2023; May 16, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government; May 21, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 21, 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 entire governing body of a municipality following each apportionment.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter A, Chapter 21, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 21.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.006.  ELECTION OF ENTIRE GOVERNING BODY UPON APPORTIONMENT. (a) A municipality that is divided into districts, wards, or other areas from which members of its governing body are elected shall elect all members of the municipality's governing body following each apportionment on the first uniform election date that allows sufficient time to comply with any requirements of law.

(b)  If members of the governing body of a municipality described by Subsection (a) serve staggered terms, the municipality shall adopt an equitable process to determine which members of the governing body serve shorter terms to accommodate an election following apportionment that accounts for the remaining time in each member's term and whether the term of any member elected from a particular district, ward, or area was previously shortened under this section.

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

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