

By: Noble

H.B. No. 1299

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the signature required on a carrier envelope for a
3 ballot voted by mail; changing the elements of a criminal offense.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 86.005(c), Election Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (c) After marking the ballot, the voter must place it in the
8 official ballot envelope and then seal the ballot envelope, place
9 the ballot envelope in the official carrier envelope and then seal
10 the carrier envelope, and sign the certificate on the carrier
11 envelope using ink on paper. An electronic signature or
12 photocopied signature is not permitted.

13 SECTION 2. Section 86.0051(b), Election Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (b) A person other than the voter who assists a voter by
16 depositing the carrier envelope in the mail or with a common or
17 contract carrier or who obtains the carrier envelope for that
18 purpose must provide the person's signature, printed name, and
19 residence address on the reverse side of the envelope. The person
20 must sign the envelope using ink on paper. An electronic signature
21 or photocopied signature is not permitted.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.