

By: Anchía

H.B. No. 1451

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to electronic voter registration.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 13, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 13.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 13.009. ELECTRONIC VOTER REGISTRATION. (a) The secretary of state shall implement a program to allow a person to complete a voter registration application over the Internet from the official state Internet website. The secretary of state and the Department of Public Safety Internet websites must provide a link to the application on the official state Internet website.

(b) An applicant for electronic voter registration who has a state-issued driver's license or personal identification card, regardless of whether the license or card is unexpired, must:

(1) attest to the truth of the information on the application by affirmatively accepting the information as true; and

(2) affirmatively consent to the use of the signature on the applicant's driver's license or personal identification card for voter registration purposes.

(c) An applicant for electronic voter registration who does not have a state-issued driver's license or personal identification card must:

(1) attest to the truth of the information provided on the application by affirmatively accepting the information as true;

1 and

2 (2) print a registration application from the Internet
3 website the applicant is using to register, sign the application,
4 and mail it to the registrar.

5 (d) For each application submitted under Subsection (b),
6 the program must require that a digital copy of the applicant's
7 signature be obtained from the Department of Public Safety.

8 (e) For each application submitted under Subsection (c),
9 the program must provide the applicant with:

10 (1) a registration application that the applicant can
11 print from the registration website, sign, and mail to the
12 registrar as required under Subsection (c)(2); and

13 (2) information about how the applicant can obtain a
14 driver's license or personal identification card from the
15 Department of Public Safety.

16 (f) An application submitted under this section is
17 considered for all purposes an application submitted by mail under
18 this title.

19 (g) The secretary of state shall adopt rules as necessary to
20 implement this section, including rules to provide for security
21 measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of applications
22 submitted electronically.

23 (h) The rules adopted under Subsection (g) must require
24 that:

25 (1) the Internet website through which a person may
26 complete a voter registration application include a description of
27 the offense described by Section 13.007 in a conspicuous location

1 on the website near the place where the person begins or submits the
2 application; and

3 (2) the state electronic Internet portal project is
4 used to authenticate the identity of a person who submits an
5 application electronically under this section.

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