

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a study by the secretary of state on the feasibility of  
3 central counting stations complying with federal standards for  
4 facilities that contain sensitive information.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 127, Election Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 127.010 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 127.010. FEASIBILITY STUDY ON CENTRAL COUNTING STATION  
9 OPERATING AS SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION FACILITY. (a)  
10 The secretary of state shall conduct a study to consider the  
11 feasibility of conforming each central counting station with the  
12 Sensitive Compartmented Information Facilities (SCIF) standards  
13 promulgated by the United States federal government.

14 (b) The study must consider the feasibility of ensuring  
15 substantial compliance with the SCIF standards while allowing for  
16 poll watching and other citizen involvement in an election  
17 permitted under state law.

18 (c) Not later than December 1, 2024, the secretary of state  
19 shall create a detailed report summarizing the findings of the  
20 study and deliver the report to the legislature.

21 (d) This section expires December 15, 2024.

22 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

H.B. No. 1848

1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1848 was passed by the House on May 9, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 91, Nays 50, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1848 was passed by the Senate on May 24, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 20, Nays 11.

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Secretary of the Senate

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

Date

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Governor