

By: DeAyala

H.B. No. 1848

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

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

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

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

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

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

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

(d) This section expires December 1, 2024.

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

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

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.