

By: Hinojosa

H.B. No. 2624

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the voter registration powers of volunteer deputy registrars.

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

SECTION 1. Section 13.032, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 13.032. PROHIBITION ON REFUSING TO APPOINT. A registrar may not refuse to appoint as a volunteer deputy registrar:

(1) a person eligible for appointment under Section 13.031(d); ~~[or]~~

(2) any person on the basis of sex, race, creed, color, or national origin or ancestry; or

(3) an otherwise eligible person that distributes voter registration application forms provided by the secretary of state under Section 13.002 in accordance with any procedures prescribed under Section 13.038(b).

SECTION 2. Section 13.033(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) If a person is to be appointed, the registrar shall prepare a certificate of appointment in duplicate containing:

(1) the date of appointment;

(2) the statement: "I, \_\_\_\_\_, Voter Registrar for \_\_\_\_\_ County, do hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as a

1 volunteer deputy registrar [~~for \_\_\_\_\_ County~~].";

2 (3) the person's residence address;

3 (4) the person's voter registration number, if any;

4 (5) a statement that the term of the appointment  
5 expires December 31 of an even-numbered year; and

6 (6) a statement that the appointment terminates on the  
7 person's final conviction for an offense for failure to deliver a  
8 registration application and may terminate on the registrar's  
9 determination that the person failed to adequately review a  
10 registration application, intentionally destroyed or physically  
11 altered a registration application, or engaged in any other  
12 activity that conflicts with the responsibilities of a volunteer  
13 deputy registrar under this chapter.

14 SECTION 3. Section 13.037(a), Election Code, is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (a) A person may not receive compensation from any ~~the~~  
17 county for service as a volunteer deputy registrar unless  
18 compensation is authorized by the commissioners court of that  
19 county.

20 SECTION 4. Section 13.038, Election Code, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 Sec. 13.038. POWERS GENERALLY. (a) A volunteer deputy  
23 registrar may distribute voter registration application forms  
24 throughout the county in which the deputy was appointed and receive  
25 registration applications submitted to the deputy in person.

26 (b) A volunteer deputy registrar may serve as a volunteer  
27 deputy registrar throughout this state regardless of the county in

1 which the deputy was appointed. A volunteer deputy registrar may  
2 distribute a voter registration application in the form prescribed  
3 by the secretary of state under Section 31.002 throughout this  
4 state and receive an application in that form submitted to the  
5 deputy in person, regardless of the county in which the application  
6 was printed. The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures to  
7 implement this subsection.

8       SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.