

By: Garcia

H.B. No. 2979

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2979:

By: Wilson

C.S.H.B. No. 2979

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to an indication on a voter's voter registration
3 certificate that a voter is a veteran.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 13.122(a), Election Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (a) In addition to the other statements and spaces for
8 entering information that appear on an officially prescribed
9 registration application form, each official form must include:

10 (1) the statement: "I understand that giving false
11 information to procure a voter registration is perjury and a crime
12 under state and federal law.";

13 (2) a space for the applicant's registration number;

14 (3) a space for the applicant's Texas driver's license
15 number or number of a personal identification card issued by the
16 Department of Public Safety;

17 (4) a space for the applicant's telephone number;

18 (5) a space for the applicant's social security
19 number;

20 (6) a space for the applicant's sex;

21 (7) a statement indicating that the furnishing of the
22 applicant's telephone number and sex is optional;

23 (8) a space or box for indicating whether the
24 applicant or voter is submitting new registration information or a

1 change in current registration information;

2 (9) a statement instructing a voter who is using the
3 form to make a change in current registration information to enter
4 the voter's name and the changed information in the appropriate
5 spaces on the form;

6 (10) a statement that if the applicant declines to
7 register to vote, that fact will remain confidential and will be
8 used only for voter registration purposes;

9 (11) a statement that if the applicant does register
10 to vote, information regarding the agency or office to which the
11 application is submitted will remain confidential and will be used
12 only for voter registration purposes;

13 (12) a space or box for indicating whether the
14 applicant is interested in working as an election judge;

15 (13) a statement warning that a conviction for making
16 a false statement may result in imprisonment for up to the maximum
17 amount of time provided by law, a fine of up to the maximum amount
18 provided by law, or both the imprisonment and the fine; ~~and~~

19 (14) a space or box for indicating whether the
20 applicant served in the United States armed forces, including their
21 reserve components, an auxiliary service of one of the branches of
22 the armed forces, or the state military forces, and a statement
23 acknowledging that this information is publicly available
24 information; and

25 (15) [~~14~~] any other voter registration information
26 required by federal law or considered appropriate and required by
27 the secretary of state.

1 SECTION 2. Section 15.001(a), Election Code, is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (a) Each voter registration certificate issued must
4 contain:

5 (1) the voter's name in the form indicated by the
6 voter, subject to applicable requirements prescribed by Section
7 13.002 and by rule of the secretary of state;

8 (2) the voter's residence address or, if the residence
9 has no address, the address at which the voter receives mail and a
10 concise description of the location of the voter's residence;

11 (3) the year of the voter's birth;

12 (4) the number of the county election precinct in
13 which the voter resides;

14 (5) the voter's effective date of registration if an
15 initial certificate;

16 (6) the voter's registration number;

17 (7) an indication of the period for which the
18 certificate is issued;

19 (8) a statement explaining the circumstances under
20 which the voter will receive a new certificate;

21 (9) a space for stamping the voter's political party
22 affiliation;

23 (10) a statement that voting with the certificate by a
24 person other than the person in whose name the certificate is issued
25 is a felony;

26 (11) a space for the voter's signature;

27 (12) a statement that the voter must sign the

1 certificate personally, if able to sign, immediately on receipt;

2 (13) a space for the voter to correct the information
3 on the certificate followed by a signature line;

4 (14) the statement: "If any information on this
5 certificate changes or is incorrect, correct the information in the
6 space provided, sign below, and return this certificate to the
7 voter registrar.";

8 (15) the registrar's mailing address and telephone
9 number; ~~and~~

10 (16) the jurisdictional or distinguishing number for
11 the following territorial units in which the voter resides, as
12 determined by the voter registrar:

13 (A) congressional district;

14 (B) state senatorial district;

15 (C) state representative district;

16 (D) commissioners precinct;

17 (E) justice precinct;

18 (F) city election precinct; and

19 (G) school district election precinct; and

20 (17) an indication that the voter is a "veteran," if
21 the voter stated on the voter's registration application that the
22 voter served in the United States armed forces, including their
23 reserve components, an auxiliary service of one of the branches of
24 the armed forces, or the state military forces.

25 SECTION 3. Section 18.005(a), Election Code, is amended to
26 read as follows:

27 (a) Each original and supplemental list of registered

1 voters must:

2 (1) contain the voter's name, date of birth, and
3 registration number as provided by the statewide computerized voter
4 registration list;

5 (2) contain the voter's residence address, except as
6 provided by Subsections (b) and (c);

7 (3) be arranged alphabetically by voter name; ~~and~~

8 (4) contain the notation required by Section 15.111;

9 and

10 (5) contain an indication that the voter is a
11 "veteran," if the voter stated on the voter's registration
12 application that the voter served in the United States armed
13 forces, including their reserve components, an auxiliary service of
14 one of the branches of the armed forces, or the state military
15 forces.

16 SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act to Section
17 13.122(a), Election Code, applies only to a voter registration
18 application distributed on or after September 1, 2023. A voter
19 registration application distributed before September 1, 2023, is
20 covered by the law in effect when the application was distributed,
21 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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