

By: Toth

H.B. No. 4544

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 1 AN ACT

2 relating to the public inspection of election records.

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

4 SECTION 1. Section 1.012, Election Code, is amended by  
5 amending Subsections (a), (d), and (e) and adding Subsections (f)  
6 and (g) to read as follows:

12 (d) In this code, "election record" includes:

13 (1) anything created, distributed, or received by  
14 government under this code;

15 (2) anything required by law to be kept by others for  
16 information of government under this code; or

20 (e) Except as provided by Subsection (f), an [An] election  
21 record shall be available not later than the 15th day after election  
22 day in an electronic format for a fee of not more than \$50.

1 public inspection election records that are:

2           (1) original voted ballots; or

3           (2) images of voted ballots, if a county maintains  
4 images of voted ballots.

5           (g) The custodian shall adopt procedures to ensure the  
6 redaction of any personally identifiable information of the voter  
7 contained on a ballot before making the voted ballot available for  
8 public inspection.

9           SECTION 2. Section 1.012(b), Election Code, is repealed.

10          SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.