

By: Springer
(Hayes)

S.B. No. 924

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the combination of certain election precincts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 42.006(a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as ~~otherwise~~ provided by this section and Section 42.0051, a county election precinct must contain at least 100 but not more than 5,000 registered voters.

SECTION 2. Section 42.0051, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) This section applies only to a county with a population of less than 1.2 million.

(a-1) In a general or special election for which use of county election precincts is required, the commissioner's court ~~[if changes in county election precinct boundaries to give effect to a redistricting plan result in county election precincts with a number of registered voters less than 500, a commissioners court for a general or special election, or for a primary election the county executive committee of a political party conducting a primary election,~~] may, on the recommendation of the county election board, combine county election precincts notwithstanding Section 42.005 if:

(1) the commissioners court cannot secure a suitable

1 polling place location under Section 43.031; and

2 (2) the location of the combined polling place
3 adequately serves the voters of the combined precinct [~~to avoid~~
4 ~~unreasonable expenditures for election equipment, supplies, and~~
5 ~~personnel~~].

6 (c) A combined precinct under this section may not contain
7 more than 10,000 registered voters [~~is subject to the maximum~~
8 ~~population prescribed for a precinct under Section 42.006~~].

9 SECTION 3. Section 42.0051(b), Election Code, is repealed.

10 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.