

1-1 By: Hughes, et al. S.B. No. 12
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed August 15, 2025; August 15, 2025,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
1-4 August 15, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 10, Nays 1; August 15, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18		X		

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the duty of the attorney general to prosecute criminal
1-22 offenses prescribed by the election laws of this state.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Chapter 402, Government Code, is amended by
1-25 adding Subchapter E to read as follows:

1-26 SUBCHAPTER E. PROSECUTION OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES PRESCRIBED BY STATE
1-27 ELECTION LAWS

1-28 Sec. 402.151. APPLICABILITY. This subchapter applies to a
1-29 criminal offense under the Election Code.

1-30 Sec. 402.152. PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.

1-31 (a) A law enforcement agency shall submit to the attorney general
1-32 any report stating there is probable cause to believe an identified
1-33 person has committed a criminal offense described by Section
1-34 402.151.

1-35 (b) A local prosecuting attorney or law enforcement agency
1-36 shall provide any information requested by the attorney general
1-37 regarding investigations of criminal offenses described by Section
1-38 402.151 to assist the attorney general in performing duties
1-39 required under this subchapter.

1-40 Sec. 402.153. PROSECUTION. Notwithstanding any other law,
1-41 the attorney general has jurisdiction to prosecute and shall
1-42 represent the state in the prosecution of a criminal offense
1-43 described by Section 402.151.

1-44 SECTION 2. Sections 273.021(a) and (b), Election Code, are
1-45 amended to read as follows:

1-46 (a) The attorney general has jurisdiction to ~~may~~
1-47 prosecute and shall represent the state in the prosecution of a
1-48 criminal offense prescribed by the election laws of this state as
1-49 provided by Subchapter E, Chapter 402, Government Code.

1-50 (b) The attorney general may appear before a grand jury in
1-51 connection with a criminal ~~an~~ offense the attorney general is
1-52 authorized to prosecute under Subsection (a).

1-53 SECTION 3. Section 273.022, Election Code, is amended to
1-54 read as follows:

1-55 Sec. 273.022. COOPERATION WITH LOCAL PROSECUTOR. The
1-56 attorney general may direct the county or district attorney serving
1-57 the county in which the offense is to be prosecuted to prosecute a
1-58 criminal ~~an~~ offense that the attorney general is authorized to
1-59 prosecute under Section 273.021 or to assist the attorney general
1-60 in the prosecution.

1-61 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to

2-1 an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An
2-2 offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed
2-3 by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the
2-4 former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of
2-5 this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of
2-6 this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.
2-7 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the
2-8 last day of the legislative session.

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