

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 1090
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Elections
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The author has informed the committee that there have been instances in which people serving as volunteer deputy registrars have been indicted for actions taken during the discharge of their registrar duties. While individuals convicted of a felony offense remain specifically prohibited from serving as volunteer deputy registrars, individuals charged with other offenses committed while discharging those duties technically remain eligible for future appointments to the position. C.S.H.B. 1090 seeks to address this issue by preventing subsequent service for former volunteer deputy registrars who have been convicted of criminal offenses while performing their duties and barring individuals with certain felony convictions from serving as volunteer deputy registrars.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 1090 amends the Election Code to make the following individuals ineligible for appointment as a volunteer deputy registrar:

- a person who has been finally convicted of an offense committed during the actual discharge of the person's duties as a volunteer deputy registrar; and
- a person who, at the time of the appointment, is currently charged with such an offense, the offense of fraudulent use or possession of identifying information, or any other felony in any county in Texas.

The bill expands the circumstances under which an appointment as a volunteer deputy registrar is automatically terminated to include when the volunteer deputy has been charged with an offense allegedly committed during the actual discharge of the person's duties as a volunteer deputy registrar.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2025.

COMPARISON OF INTRODUCED AND SUBSTITUTE

While C.S.H.B. 1090 may differ from the introduced in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following summarizes the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

The substitute includes a provision absent from the introduced that expands the circumstances under which an appointment as a volunteer deputy registrar is automatically terminated to include when the volunteer deputy has been charged with an offense allegedly committed during the actual discharge of the person's duties as a volunteer deputy registrar.