S.B. No. 509

AN ACT

relating to requiring notice to the attorney general in an action under the Election Code seeking a temporary restraining order.

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

SECTION 1.  The heading to Subchapter E, Chapter 273, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER E. INJUNCTION OR RESTRAINING ORDER

SECTION 2.  Subchapter E, Chapter 273, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 273.082 to read as follows:

Sec. 273.082.  TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER; NOTICE. (a) As soon as practicable before a hearing in an action under this code seeking a temporary restraining order, a court must electronically notify the attorney general of the hearing at the e-mail address designated under Subsection (e).

(b)  Except as provided by Subsection (c), a court may not hold a hearing described by Subsection (a) sooner than one hour after the court provides notice to the attorney general under Subsection (a).

(c)  The attorney general may, after receiving notice under Subsection (a), waive the requirement of Subsection (b).

(d)  A court shall allow the attorney general to participate remotely in a hearing in an action under this code seeking a temporary restraining order, using any reasonably available method.

(e)  The attorney general shall designate an e-mail address at which to receive a notice under this section.

(f)  A temporary restraining order issued in violation of this section is void and unenforceable.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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I hereby certify that S.B. No. 509 passed the Senate on March 24, 2025, by the following vote:  Yeas 24, Nays 6; May 14, 2025, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 19, 2025, House granted request of the Senate; May 30, 2025, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote:  Yeas 25, Nays 6.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 509 passed the House, with amendments, on May 7, 2025, by the following vote:  Yeas 98, Nays 49, two present not voting; May 19, 2025, House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 30, 2025, House adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote:  Yeas 97, Nays 37, two present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_            Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_           Governor