89R31199 MLH-F

By:  Hall, et al. S.B. No. 2753

(Isaac)

Substitute the following for S.B. No. 2753:

By:  Shaheen C.S.S.B. No. 2753

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study on the feasibility of integrating early voting by personal appearance and election day voting, including the manner in which election returns are processed and other related changes.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter A, Chapter 31, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 31.023 to read as follows:

Sec. 31.023.  STUDY ON FEASIBILITY OF EARLY VOTING AND ELECTION DAY VOTING INTEGRATION. (a) The secretary of state shall conduct a study examining the feasibility and necessary practices and procedures to integrate early voting by personal appearance and election day voting, including by adjusting the manner in which election returns are processed and making other related changes.

(b)  In conducting the study, the secretary of state shall determine the costs, logistics, and methods required for a county holding an election to:

(1)  conduct early voting beginning on the 12th day before election day and continuing through the day before election day, including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays;

(2)  designate as locations for polling places on election day each location designated as a polling place during the early voting period;

(3)  provide for the security of voting systems and equipment during the early voting period and between the early voting period and election day; and

(4)  process and tabulate early voting ballots voted by personal appearance to be counted using automatic tabulating equipment in the same manner as ballots voted on election day at the same polling place.

(c)  Not later than September 1, 2026, the secretary of state shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and each standing committee of the legislature with jurisdiction over elections a report on the findings of the study, including any statutory changes necessary to the Election Code for elections in this state to be conducted in the manner described by Subsection (b).

(d)  This section expires January 1, 2027.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.