

AN ACT

relating to accommodating voters with a disability; creating a criminal offense.

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

SECTION 1. Section 61.003(a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person commits an offense if, during the voting period and within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may enter the building in which a polling place is located or within 20 feet of a parking space designated for curbside voting under Section 64.009, the person:

(1) loiters; or

(2) electioneers for or against any candidate, measure, or political party.

SECTION 2. Section 64.009, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (a-1), (f), (g), and (h) and adding Subsections (a-3), (a-4), (a-5), (a-6), (i), and (j) to read as follows:

(a) Subject to Subsection (a-5), if ~~if~~ a voter is physically unable to enter the polling place without personal assistance or likelihood of injuring the voter's health, on the voter's request, an election officer shall deliver a ballot to the voter at the polling place entrance or curb.

(a-1) At each polling place an area for parking not smaller

1 than the size of one parking space shall be reserved for voting
2 under this section. The area may not be designated specifically for
3 persons with disabilities. The area must be clearly marked with a
4 sign:

5 (1) indicating that the space is reserved for use by a
6 voter who is unable to enter the polling place; ~~and~~

7 (2) displaying, in large font that is clearly readable
8 from a vehicle, a telephone number that a voter may call or text to
9 request assistance from an election officer at the polling place;
10 and

11 (3) displaying, in large font that is clearly readable
12 from a vehicle, that electioneering is prohibited within 20 feet of
13 the parking space.

14 (a-3) Before an election officer may deliver a ballot to a
15 voter under Subsection (a), the voter must complete and sign a form,
16 provided by the election officer, that contains the following
17 statement: "I swear (or affirm) under penalty of perjury that I am
18 physically unable to enter the polling place without personal
19 assistance or likelihood of injuring my health, or I am requesting a
20 reasonable accommodation under Section 1.022, Election Code.
21 Therefore, I am requesting to vote outside the polling place."

22 (a-4) Except as provided by Subchapter B, an election
23 officer who delivers a ballot to the voter at the polling place
24 entrance or curb may not provide assistance in marking the ballot.

25 (a-5) If four or more election officers are present at the
26 polling place, two election officers shall deliver a ballot to the
27 voter at the polling place entrance or curb.

1 (a-6) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, if a
2 voter is escorting a person to whom Subsection (a) applies to the
3 polling place entrance or curb, on the voter's request, an election
4 officer shall deliver a ballot to the voter at the polling place
5 entrance or curb.

6 (f) Upon accepting a voter for voting under this section who
7 is provided transportation by another person, the election officer
8 shall ask the person providing transportation whether the person
9 has assisted seven or more voters voting under this section during
10 the early voting period and on election day. If the person indicates
11 that the person has assisted ~~[A person who simultaneously assists]~~
12 seven or more voters voting under this section during the early
13 voting period and on election day by providing the voters with
14 transportation to the polling place, the person must complete and
15 sign a form, provided by an election officer, that contains the
16 person's name and address and whether the person is providing
17 assistance solely under this section or under both this section and
18 Subchapter B.

19 (g) A form completed under Subsection (a-3) or (f) shall be
20 delivered to the secretary of state as soon as practicable. The
21 secretary shall retain a form delivered under this section for the
22 period for preserving the precinct election records and shall make
23 the form available to the attorney general for inspection upon
24 request.

25 (h) The secretary of state shall prescribe the forms and
26 process required by this section and adopt rules necessary to
27 implement this section ~~[form described by Subsection (f)]~~.

1 (i) A person commits an offense if the person intentionally
2 fails to complete the form required by Subsection (f).

3 (j) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

4 SECTION 3. Section 64.0322, Election Code, is amended by
5 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
6 follows:

7 (a) A person[~~, other than an election officer,~~] who assists
8 a voter in accordance with this chapter is required to complete a
9 form stating:

10 (1) the name and address of the person assisting the
11 voter;

12 (2) the relationship to the voter of the person
13 assisting the voter; and

14 (3) whether the person assisting the voter received or
15 accepted any form of compensation or other benefit from a
16 candidate, campaign, or political committee.

17 (c) Not later than the 30th day after the date of the
18 election, the county clerk shall report to the secretary of state
19 information regarding any individual who assisted a total of seven
20 or more voters during the early voting period and on election day.

21 SECTION 4. Section 85.036(a), Election Code, is amended to
22 read as follows:

23 (a) During the time an early voting polling place is open
24 for the conduct of early voting, a person may not electioneer for or
25 against any candidate, measure, or political party:

26 (1) in or within 100 feet of an outside door through
27 which a voter may enter the building or structure in which the early

1 voting polling place is located; or

2 (2) within 20 feet of a parking space designated for
3 curbside voting under Section [64.009](#).

4 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 521 was passed by the House on May 13, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 84, Nays 54, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 521 on May 29, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 89, Nays 44, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 521 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 28, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 20, Nays 11.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor