

By: Cain, Bumgarner, et al.

H.B. No. 1478

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the failure of a voter registrar to comply with voter registration laws.

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

SECTION 1. Section 16.039, Election Code, is transferred to Subchapter A, Chapter 12, Election Code, redesignated as Section 12.007, Election Code, and amended to read as follows:

Sec. 12.007 [~~16.039~~]. FAILURE BY REGISTRAR TO TIMELY PERFORM DUTY. (a) The secretary of state may withhold funds administered and distributed by the secretary under Chapter 19 or Section 31.009 from a registrar if the [~~If a~~] registrar fails to timely perform a duty imposed on the registrar under this code [~~subchapter~~] requiring:

(1) the approval, change, or cancellation of a voter's registration;

(2) the scheduling of a hearing under Section 16.064 or 16.093;

(3) the determination of a challenge under Section 16.066 or 16.095; or

(4) the delivery of notice under Section 16.0921 [~~the secretary of state may withhold funds administered and distributed by the secretary under Chapter 19 or Section 31.009 from the registrar~~].

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the secretary of state

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1 shall distribute funds under Chapter 19 or Section 31.009 if the  
2 registrar performs the registrar's duty not later than 30 days  
3 after the funds are withheld.

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