

By: Vasut, Schofield, Swanson, Cain, Wilson,
et al.

H.B. No. 1661

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to election supplies and the conduct of elections;
creating criminal offenses; increasing criminal penalties.

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

SECTION 1. Section 51.005, Election Code, is amended by
amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1) and (d) to
read as follows:

(a) The authority responsible for procuring the election
supplies for an election shall provide for each election precinct a
number of ballots equal to at least the percentage of voters who
voted in that precinct in the most recent corresponding election
plus 25 percent of that number.

(a-1) The ~~number~~ of ballots provided may
not exceed the total number of registered voters in the precinct
unless the county participates in the countywide polling place
program under Section 43.007.

(d) The authority responsible for procuring the election
supplies for an election commits an offense if the authority
intentionally fails to provide an election precinct with the
required number of ballots under this section. An offense under
this subsection is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. Section 51.008, Election Code, is amended by
adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) The authority responsible for procuring the election

1 supplies for an election commits an offense if the authority
2 intentionally fails to promptly supplement the distributed ballots
3 upon request by a polling place. An offense under this subsection
4 is a Class A misdemeanor.

5 SECTION 3. Section 51.010(c), Election Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (c) An offense under this section is a Class A [~~C~~]
8 misdemeanor.

9 SECTION 4. Section 51.011(b), Election Code, is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 (b) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor
12 [~~Class C misdemeanor~~].

13 SECTION 5. Section 61.007(b), Election Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (b) An offense under this section is a state jail felony
16 [~~Class A misdemeanor~~].

17 SECTION 6. The changes in law made by this Act to Sections
18 51.010, 51.011, and 61.007, Election Code, apply only to an offense
19 committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense
20 committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the
21 law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former
22 law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this
23 section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this
24 Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

25 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.