

1-1 By: Bhojani, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Paxton) H.B. No. 2253
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 14, 2025;
1-3 May 15, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on State
1-4 Affairs; May 23, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 10, Nays 0; May 23, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6	COMMITTEE VOTE				
1-7		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	Hughes	X			
1-9	Paxton	X			
1-10	Bettencourt	X			
1-11	Birdwell	X			
1-12	Hall	X			
1-13	Hinojosa of Nueces	X			
1-14	Middleton	X			
1-15	Parker	X			
1-16	Perry			X	
1-17	Schwertner	X			
1-18	Zaffirini	X			

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the authority to cancel certain elections on a measure
1-22 to authorize the issuance of bonds.
1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-24 SECTION 1. The heading to Section 2.081, Election Code, is
1-25 amended to read as follows:
1-26 Sec. 2.081. CANCELLATION OF ~~MOOT~~ MEASURE.
1-27 SECTION 2. Section 2.081, Election Code, is amended by
1-28 adding Subsections (a-1) and (a-2) and amending Subsections (b) and
1-29 (c) to read as follows:
1-30 (a-1) Not later than the 74th day before election day, the
1-31 authority that ordered an election on a measure to authorize the
1-32 issuance of bonds may cancel the election on the measure if:
1-33 (1) not earlier than the 90th day before the date of
1-34 the election on the measure, the governor issues a disaster
1-35 declaration under Chapter 418, Government Code, regarding a natural
1-36 disaster or other disaster threatening the health, safety, or
1-37 general welfare of the authority's residents; and
1-38 (2) the governing body of the authority, after holding
1-39 an open meeting under Subsection (a-2), determines by majority vote
1-40 that canceling the election on the measure is necessary:
1-41 (A) due to damage to the authority's election
1-42 system;
1-43 (B) to avoid harm to the authority's election
1-44 workers; or
1-45 (C) to avoid harm to voters within the
1-46 authority's jurisdiction.
1-47 (a-2) The governing body of an authority may hold an open
1-48 meeting solely to deliberate whether to cancel an election on a
1-49 measure to authorize the issuance of bonds due to the issuance of a
1-50 disaster declaration described by Subsection (a-1). To the extent
1-51 practicable under the circumstances, the governing body shall
1-52 provide reasonable public notice of the meeting and allow members
1-53 of the public and the press to observe the meeting.
1-54 (b) If an election on a measure is canceled or the measure is
1-55 removed from the ballot ~~[declared moot]~~ under this section ~~[and is~~
1-56 ~~removed from the ballot]~~, the authority holding the election shall
1-57 post notice of the cancellation or removal ~~[declaration]~~ during
1-58 early voting by personal appearance and on election day, at each
1-59 polling place that would have been used for the election on the
1-60 measure.
1-61 (c) A county election officer, as defined by Section 31.091,

2-1 may use a single combined notice of cancellation under Subsection
2-2 (b) for all authorities:

2-3 (1) for which the officer provides election services
2-4 under contract; and

2-5 (2) that cancel an election on a measure or remove a
2-6 measure from the ballot ~~[declare an election moot]~~ under Subsection
2-7 (a) or (a-1).

2-8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-12 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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