

By: Smithee

H.B. No. 4508

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 4508:

By: Shaheen

C.S.H.B. No. 4508

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the days and hours in which counties of certain sizes  
conduct early voting by personal appearance.

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

SECTION 1. Section 85.005, Election Code, is amended by  
amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as  
follows:

(c) In a county with a population of 10,000 or more, voting  
~~[Voting]~~ in a primary election or the general election for state and  
county officers shall be conducted at the main early voting polling  
place for at least 12 consecutive hours on each weekday of the last  
week of the early voting period, and the voting in a special  
election ordered by the governor shall be conducted at the main  
early voting polling place for at least 12 consecutive hours on each  
of the last two days of the early voting period. Voting under this  
subsection may not be conducted earlier than 6 a.m. or later than 10  
p.m.

(c-1) In a county with a population of less than 10,000,  
voting in a primary election or the general election for state and  
county officers shall, on receipt of a written request submitted by  
at least 15 registered voters of the territory covered by the  
election, be conducted at the main early voting polling place  
during the hours described by Subsection (c).

SECTION 2. Section 85.006, Election Code, is amended by

amending Subsection (e) and adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(e) In a primary election or the general election for state and county officers:

(1)[7] the early voting clerk of a county with a population of 10,000 or more shall order voting by personal appearance at the main early voting polling place to be conducted on the last Saturday of the early voting period for at least 12 consecutive hours, except that voting may not be conducted earlier than 6 a.m. or later than 10 p.m., and on the last Sunday of the early voting period for at least six consecutive hours, except that voting may not be conducted earlier than 9 a.m. or later than 10 p.m.; and

(2) the early voting clerk of a county with a population of less than 10,000 shall order voting by personal appearance at the main early voting polling place to be conducted on either the last Saturday or the last Sunday of the early voting period for at least 12 consecutive hours, except that voting may not be conducted earlier than 9 a.m. or later than 10 p.m., provided that the county chair of each party that made nominations by primary election for the last general election for state and county officers must agree on the day for the voting to be conducted.

(f) Subsection (e) [This subsection] supersedes any provision of this subchapter to the extent of any conflict.

SECTION 3. Section 85.064, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

1           (d) The authority authorized under Section 85.006 to order  
2 early voting on a Saturday or Sunday may also order, in the manner  
3 prescribed by that section, early voting to be conducted on a  
4 Saturday or Sunday at any one or more of the temporary branch  
5 polling places, if the territory served by the authority is  
6 situated in a county with a population of 10,000 or more. In  
7 addition, the early voting clerk shall order such voting in  
8 accordance with Section 85.006(e) at each temporary branch polling  
9 place established under Section 85.062(d).

10           (e) For purposes of Subsection (d), if the territory served  
11 by the authority is situated in more than one county, the population  
12 of the territory served by the authority is determined using the  
13 combined populations of all counties in which the territory is  
14 situated.

15           SECTION 4. This Act applies only to an election for which  
16 early voting begins on or after the effective date of this Act.

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