

By: Bettencourt

S.B. No. 1542

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to maintaining the accuracy of information contained  
3 within the statewide voter registration system; creating a criminal  
4 offense.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 18.062(i), Election Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (i) In addition to using a system described by Subsection  
9 (a), the secretary of state shall, ~~[use data from the National~~  
10 ~~Change of Address database to identify voters whose addresses have~~  
11 ~~changed]~~ for the purpose of preventing duplication of registration  
12 in more than one state or jurisdiction and to identify voters whose  
13 addresses have changed:

14 (1) use data from the National Change of Address  
15 database; and

16 (2) enter into an agreement with the Department of  
17 Public Safety to receive notice of a change of address submitted  
18 under Section 521.054, Transportation Code.

19 SECTION 2. Section 18.065, Election Code, is amended by  
20 adding Subsections (e-1) and (g-1) to read as follows.

21 (e-1) On a third violation under Subsection (e), the  
22 secretary of state shall, as necessary, assume the voter  
23 registrar's duties relating to the maintenance of the statewide  
24 voter registration list, including the registrar's duties related

1 to the maintenance of accurate registration records under:

2 (1) Subchapters B, C, and D, Chapter 15; and

3 (2) Chapter 16.

4 (g-1) It is an offense for a voter registrar to commit a  
5 violation of a requirement imposed on the registrar by a provision  
6 or rule described in Subsection (a) three or more times. An offense  
7 under this subsection is a Class A misdemeanor.

8 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
9 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.  
10 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is  
11 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,  
12 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For  
13 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the  
14 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred  
15 before that date.

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