

By: Hughes

S.B. No. 2877

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the penalty for the crime of election fraud; increasing
3 a criminal penalty.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 276.013(a) and (b), Election Code, are
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (a) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly or
8 intentionally makes any effort to:

9 (1) influence the independent exercise of the vote of
10 another in the presence of the ballot or during the voting process,
11 including by altering the ballot of another or by otherwise causing
12 a ballot to not reflect the intent of the voter;

15 (3) cause any false or intentionally misleading
16 statement, representation, or information to be provided:

17 (A) to an election official; or

18 (B) on an application for ballot by mail, carrier
19 envelope, or any other official election-related form or document;

20 (4) prevent a voter from casting a legal ballot in an
21 election in which the voter is eligible to vote;

22 (5) provide false information to a voter with the
23 intent of preventing the voter from voting in an election in which
24 the voter is eligible to vote;

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1 (6) cause the ballot not to reflect the intent of the
2 voter;

6 (8) cause or enable a vote to be cast more than once in
7 the same election; [~~or~~]

14 (b) An offense under this section is a felony of the second
15 degree [Class A misdemeanor], unless:

16 (1) the person committed the offense while acting in
17 the person's capacity as an elected official, in which case the
18 offense is a [state jail] felony of the first degree; or

22 SECTION 2. The following provisions of the Election Code
23 are repealed:

24 (1) Section 276.013(s); and

25 (2) Section 276.014.

26 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
27 an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An

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1 offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed
2 by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and the former
3 law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this
4 section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this
5 Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

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