

SENATE AMENDMENTS
2nd Printing

By: Guillen, et al.

H.B. No. 521

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to accommodating voters with a disability; creating a criminal offense.

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

SECTION 1. Section 61.003(a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person commits an offense if, during the voting period and within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may enter the building in which a polling place is located or within 20 feet of a parking space designated for curbside voting under Section 64.009, the person:

(1) loiters; or

(2) electioneers for or against any candidate, measure, or political party.

SECTION 2. Section 64.009, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (a-1), (f), (g), and (h) and adding Subsections (a-3), (a-4), (a-5), (i), and (j) to read as follows:

(a) Subject to Subsection (a-5), if ~~[If]~~ a voter is physically unable to enter the polling place without personal assistance or likelihood of injuring the voter's health, on the voter's request, an election officer shall deliver a ballot to the voter at the polling place entrance or curb.

(a-1) At each polling place an area for parking not smaller than the size of one parking space shall be reserved for voting

1 under this section. The area may not be designated specifically for
2 persons with disabilities. The area must be clearly marked with a
3 sign:

4 (1) indicating that the space is reserved for use by a
5 voter who is unable to enter the polling place; ~~and~~

6 (2) displaying, in large font that is clearly readable
7 from a vehicle, a telephone number that a voter may call or text to
8 request assistance from an election officer at the polling place;
9 and

10 (3) displaying, in large font that is clearly readable
11 from a vehicle, that electioneering is prohibited within 20 feet of
12 the parking space.

13 (a-3) Before an election officer may deliver a ballot to a
14 voter under Subsection (a), the voter must complete and sign a form,
15 provided by the election officer, that contains the following
16 statement: "I swear (or affirm) under penalty of perjury that I am
17 physically unable to enter the polling place without personal
18 assistance or likelihood of injuring my health, or I am requesting a
19 reasonable accommodation under Section 1.022, Election Code.
20 Therefore, I am requesting to vote outside the polling place."

21 (a-4) Except as provided by Subchapter B, an election
22 officer who delivers a ballot to the voter at the polling place
23 entrance or curb may not provide assistance in marking the ballot.

24 (a-5) If four or more election officers are present at the
25 polling place, two election officers shall deliver a ballot to the
26 voter at the polling place entrance or curb.

27 (f) A person who, during the early voting period and on

1 election day, ~~[simultaneously]~~ assists seven or more voters voting
2 under this section by providing the voters with transportation to
3 the polling place must complete and sign a form, provided by an
4 election officer, that contains the person's name and address and
5 whether the person is providing assistance solely under this
6 section or under both this section and Subchapter B.

7 (g) A form completed under Subsection (a-3) or (f) shall be
8 delivered to the secretary of state as soon as practicable. The
9 secretary shall retain a form delivered under this section for the
10 period for preserving the precinct election records and shall make
11 the form available to the attorney general for inspection upon
12 request.

13 (h) The secretary of state shall prescribe the forms and
14 process required by this section and adopt rules necessary to
15 implement this section ~~[form described by Subsection (f)]~~.

16 (i) A person commits an offense if the person intentionally
17 fails to complete the form required by Subsection (f).

18 (j) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

19 SECTION 3. Section 64.0322, Election Code, is amended by
20 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
21 follows:

22 (a) A person~~[, other than an election officer,]~~ who assists
23 a voter in accordance with this chapter is required to complete a
24 form stating:

25 (1) the name and address of the person assisting the
26 voter;

27 (2) the relationship to the voter of the person

1 assisting the voter; and

2 (3) whether the person assisting the voter received or
3 accepted any form of compensation or other benefit from a
4 candidate, campaign, or political committee.

5 (c) Not later than the 30th day after the date of the
6 election, the county clerk shall report to the secretary of state
7 information regarding any individual who assisted a total of seven
8 or more voters during the early voting period and on election day.

9 SECTION 4. Section 85.036(a), Election Code, is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 (a) During the time an early voting polling place is open
12 for the conduct of early voting, a person may not electioneer for or
13 against any candidate, measure, or political party:

14 (1) in or within 100 feet of an outside door through
15 which a voter may enter the building or structure in which the early
16 voting polling place is located; or

17 (2) within 20 feet of a parking space designated for
18 curbside voting under Section 64.009.

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

ADOPTED

MAY 27 2025

LV: 19-12

Latey Law
Secretary of the Senate

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 1

BY:

April S. Paster

1 Amend H.B. No. 521 (senate committee report) in SECTION 1 of
2 the bill, by striking amended Section 64.009(f), Election Code
3 (page 2, lines 9 through 15), and substituting the following:

4 (f) Upon accepting a voter for voting under this section who
5 is provided transportation by another person, the election officer
6 shall ask the person providing transportation whether the person
7 has assisted seven or more voters voting under this section during
8 the early voting period and on election day. If the person indicates
9 that the person has assisted ~~[A person who simultaneously assists]~~
10 seven or more voters voting under this section during the early
11 voting period and on election day by providing the voters with
12 transportation to the polling place, the person must complete and
13 sign a form, provided by an election officer, that contains the
14 person's name and address and whether the person is providing
15 assistance solely under this section or under both this section and
16 Subchapter B.

ADOPTED

MAY 27 2025

Laticy Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 2

BY: Zaffirini

Amend H.B. No. 521 (senate committee report) as follows:

(1) In the recital to SECTION 2 of the bill, amending Section 64.009, Election Code (page 1, line 36), between "(a-5)," and "(i)", insert "(a-6),".

(2) In SECTION 2 of the bill, immediately following added Section 64.009(a-5), Election Code (page 2, between lines 8 and 9), insert the following:

(a-6) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, if a voter is escorting a person to whom Subsection (a) applies to the polling place entrance or curb, on the voter's request, an election officer shall deliver a ballot to the voter at the polling place entrance or curb.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 28, 2025

TO: Honorable Dustin Burrows, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB521 by Guillen (Relating to accommodating voters with a disability; creating a criminal offense.),
As Passed 2nd House

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that any impact on state correctional populations or on the demand for state correctional resources would not be significant

Local Government Impact

The bill creates several Class A misdemeanor election offenses for voters and election officials. It is assumed that any fiscal impact to units of local government associated with enforcement, prosecution, supervision, or confinement would not be significant.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 307 Secretary of State

LBB Staff: JMc, WP, FV, BC, CWi

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 21, 2025

TO: Honorable Bryan Hughes, Chair, Senate Committee on State Affairs

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB521 by Guillen (Relating to accommodating voters with a disability; creating a criminal offense.),
As Engrossed

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

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Local Government Impact

The bill creates several Class A misdemeanor election offenses for voters and election officials. It is assumed that any fiscal impact to units of local government associated with enforcement, prosecution, supervision, or confinement would not be significant.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 307 Secretary of State

LBB Staff: JMc, WP, FV, BC, CWi

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 6, 2025

TO: Honorable Matt Shaheen, Chair, House Committee on Elections

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB521 by Guillen (relating to accommodating voters with a disability: creating a criminal offense.),
Committee Report 1st House, Substituted

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that any impact on state correctional populations or on the demand for state correctional resources would not be significant

Local Government Impact

The bill creates several Class A misdemeanor election offenses for voters and election officials. It is assumed that any fiscal impact to units of local government associated with enforcement, prosecution, supervision, or confinement would not be significant.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 307 Secretary of State

LBB Staff: JMc, FV, BC, CWi

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 18, 2025

TO: Honorable Matt Shaheen, Chair, House Committee on Elections

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB521 by Guillen (Relating to accommodating voters with a disability: creating criminal offenses.),
As Introduced

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that any impact on state correctional populations or on the demand for state correctional resources would not be significant

Local Government Impact

The bill creates several Class A misdemeanor election offenses for voters and election officials. It is assumed that any fiscal impact to units of local government associated with enforcement, prosecution, supervision, or confinement would not be significant.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 307 Secretary of State

LBB Staff: JMc, FV, BC