

SENATE AMENDMENTS
2nd Printing

By: Cortez, Plesa

H.B. No. 3697

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the text on an application for a ballot to be voted by
3 mail and other balloting materials.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 84.011(b), Election Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (b) The officially prescribed application form for an early
8 voting ballot to be voted by mail must be:

9 (1) at least eight inches by nine inches in size;

10 (2) [and be] printed in at least 12-point ~~[six-point]~~
11 type; and

12 (3) printed in black text on a white background.

13 SECTION 2. Section 86.002, Election Code, is amended by
14 adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

15 (j) The balloting materials, including the instructions
16 under Subsection (d), must be printed:

17 (1) in at least 12-point type; and

18 (2) in black text on a white background.

19 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
20 an election ordered on or after the effective date of this Act.

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

ADOPTED

MAY 28 2025

Lately Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

By: Zaffiri

H.B. No. 3697

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3697:

By: Charles S. Parker

C.S. H.B. No. 3697

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ADOPTED

MAY 28 2025

Latey Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 1

BY: *Zaffirini*

1 Amend C.S.H.B. No. 3697 (senate committee report) as
2 follows:

3 (1) In SECTION 1 of the bill, in amended Section 84.011(b),
4 Election Code (page 1, line 31), strike "12-point" and substitute
5 "10-point".

6 (2) Strike SECTION 2 of the bill, adding Section 86.002(j),
7 Election Code (page 1, lines 34 through 39), and renumber
8 subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 29, 2025

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

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3697 by Cortez (Relating to the text on an application for a ballot to be voted by mail and other balloting materials.), **As Passed 2nd House**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: JMc, WP, GP

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION
Revision 1

May 23, 2025

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

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3697 by Cortez (relating to the text on an application for a ballot to be voted by mail and other balloting materials.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the size of text printed on certain balloting materials.

According to the Secretary of State, the bill would increase the size and weight of ballots transported by mail. It is assumed that any costs related to an increase in weight of these materials could be absorbed within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 307 Secretary of State

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

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: HB3697 by Cortez (Relating to the text on an application for a ballot to be voted by mail and other balloting materials.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

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Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 307 Secretary of State

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

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 23, 2025

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

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB3697** by Cortez (Relating to the text on an application for a ballot to be voted by mail and other balloting materials.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Election Code related the size of text printed on certain balloting materials.

According to the Secretary of State, the bill would increase the size and weight of ballots transported by mail. It is assumed that any costs related to an increase in weight of these materials could be absorbed within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 307 Secretary of State

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