By: Blanco S.B. No. 284

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the qualifications for serving as a member of the board of directors of certain municipal utility districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 54.102, Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 54.102. QUALIFICATIONS FOR DIRECTORS. To be qualified to serve as a director, a person shall:

(1) be at least 18 years old;

(2) be[,] a resident citizen of the State of Texas; [,] and

(3) either own land subject to taxation in the district or be a qualified voter within the district.

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 54, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 54.103 to read as follows:

Sec. 54.103. QUALIFICATIONS FOR DIRECTORS IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a district wholly or partly located in a county that:

(1) borders the United Mexican States; and

(2) contains a municipality with a population of more than 500,000.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 54.102, to be qualified to serve as a director of a district to which this section applies, a person shall:

(1) meet the requirements of Sections 54.102(1) and (2); and

(2) be a qualified voter within the district.

(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (b)(2), a person who is not a qualified voter within a district may serve as a director of the district if:

(1) less than 50 percent of the retail water or sewer connections in the district are for residential users; and

(2) the district did not receive an application for a place on the ballot for each position on the board from a candidate who is a qualified voter within the district on or before the 15th day before the deadline for filing an application for a place on the ballot as prescribed by Section 144.005, Election Code.

SECTION 3. Section 54.103, Water Code, as added by this Act, does not affect the entitlement of a member serving immediately before the effective date of this Act on the board of directors of a municipal utility district described by that section to continue to carry out the board's functions for the remainder of the member's term. That section applies only to a member of the board of directors of such a district elected or appointed on or after the effective date of this Act. That section does not prohibit a person who is a member of the board of directors of such a district on the effective date of this Act from being reelected or reappointed to the board if the person has the qualifications required for a member under that section.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2027.