By: Cook of Harris S.B. No. 361

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the inclusion of additional printed languages for election materials in certain political subdivisions.

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

SECTION 1. Section 272.011, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1) and (a-2) to read as follows:

(a) If the director of the census determines under 52 U.S.C. Section 10503 [~~42 U.S.C. Section 1973aa-1a~~] that a political subdivision must provide election materials in a language other than English or Spanish, the political subdivision shall provide election materials in that language in the same manner in which the political subdivision would be required to provide materials in Spanish under this chapter, to the extent applicable.

(a-1) In addition to English, Spanish, or another language, as determined by the director of the census under 52 U.S.C. Section 10503, a political subdivision located in a county with a population of more than 2.5 million shall provide election materials in Arabic, French, Mandarin, and Vietnamese in the same manner in which the political subdivision would be required to provide materials in Spanish under this chapter, to the extent applicable.

(a-2) The county clerk of a county with a population of more than 2.5 million may require election materials be provided in any

additional language not otherwise required by this section in the same manner in which a political subdivision would be required to provide materials in Spanish under this chapter, to the extent applicable.

SECTION 2. Nothing in this Act may be construed or applied to be in conflict with federal law.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2027.