

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R7121 DRH-D

H.B. 2085
By: Campbell (Duncan)
State Affairs
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Engrossed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Under current law, the presiding election judge is required to make a reasonable effort to appoint Spanish-speaking bilingual election clerks for each precinct. In certain areas, despite these efforts, the number of Spanish-speaking election clerks appointed is insufficient to serve the needs of the Spanish-speaking voting population. H.B 2085 requires the authority holding the election to appoint at least one bilingual clerk for a central location, allowing any precinct to solicit assistance from this one primary location.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 272.009, Election Code, as follows:

- (a) Creates new subsection from existing text.
- (b) Requires the authority holding the election to appoint at least one clerk who is fluent in both English and Spanish to serve at a central location to provide assistance for Spanish-speaking voters, if the number of election clerks appointed under Subsection (a) is insufficient to serve the needs of the Spanish-speaking voters in the election. Requires the county chairs of each party holding a primary to each appoint one clerk under this subsection, on a primary election day.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2003.