

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
83R29639 ADM-F

C.S.H.B. 506  
By: Lozano; Hughes (Hinojosa)  
State Affairs  
5/17/2013  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Currently, many counties hold local elections at the same time as general elections. The uniformity in the date and location help ensure voters are not confused as to where to vote. Separate voting locations confuse voters and decreases turnout.

C.S.H.B. 506 amends current law relating to the location of early voting polling places for elections held on the November uniform election date by a political subdivision.

### **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 Subchapter A, Chapter 85, Election Code, by adding Section 85.010, as follows:

Sec. 85.010. EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACES FOR CERTAIN ELECTIONS HELD BY POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS. (a) Provides that this section applies to an election held by a political subdivision, other than a county, on the November uniform election date in which the political subdivision is not holding a joint election with a county in accordance with Chapter 271 (Joint Elections), and has not executed a contract with a county elections officer under which the political subdivision and the county share early voting polling places for the election.

(b) Requires a political subdivision that holds an election described by Subsection (a) to designate as an early voting polling place for the election any early voting polling place, other than a polling place established under Section 85.062(e) (relating to authorizing a temporary branch polling place that is movable to be established only with the approval of the county clerk and entitles certain political parties to establish such polling places), established by the county and located in a county election precinct that contains territory from the political subdivision.

(c) Requires that a shared polling place established under Subsection (b) that is designated as a main early voting polling place by any political subdivision be open for voting for all political subdivisions the polling place serves for at least the days and hours required of a main early voting polling place under Section 85.002 (Main Early Voting Polling Place) for the political subdivision making the designation.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2013.