

SUBJECT: Procedure for early voter voting notation on registered voters lists.

COMMITTEE: Elections — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 6 ayes — Laubenberg, Goldman, Fallon, Israel, Phelan, Schofield

0 nays

1 absent — Reynolds

WITNESSES: For — Ed Johnson, Harris County Clerk Office; Alan Vera, Harris County Republican Party; Glen Maxey, Texas Democratic Party; Bill Fairbrother, Texas Republican County Chairman Association, Legislative Chair; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Seth Mitchell, Bexar County Commissioners Court; Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerks Legislative Committee; Gaudette; Kathy Haigler; Kelly Horsley; Colleen Vera)

Against — None

On — Keith Ingram, Secretary of State, Elections Division; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Ashley Fischer, Secretary of State)

BACKGROUND: Election Code, sec. 87.122 requires an early voting clerk to prepare a list containing certain information on each person registered to vote in the election precinct who votes early by mail or in person. Sec. 87.122(c) requires the clerk to deliver this precinct early voting list to the presiding judge of the election precinct no later than the day before election day.

Sec. 62.014(b) requires an election officer to enter “early voting voter” beside the name of each person on the registered voter list whose name also appears on the precinct early voting list.

If the procedures in sec. 62.014(b) are not carried out timely and properly, it could create an opportunity for someone who voted early to also vote a second time on election day.

DIGEST: CSHB 2366 would amend Election Code, sec. 87.122(c) to require the early voting clerk to enter “early voting voter” beside the name of each person on the precinct list of registered voters whose name appears on the list of early voting voters. The early voting clerk would deliver the precinct list to the presiding judge no later than the day before election day.

The bill also would repeal Election Code, sec. 62.104(b) to no longer require the election officer to enter “early voting voter” beside each name on the registered voter list.

This bill would take effect September 1, 2015.