

By: Alonzo

H.B. No. 246

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the date of the primary election and related
3 procedures.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 41.007(a), (b), and (c), Election Code,
6 are amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The general primary election date is the first Tuesday
8 in February [~~March~~] in each even-numbered year.

9 (b) The runoff primary election date is the second Tuesday
10 in March [~~April~~] following the general primary election.

11 (c) The presidential primary election date is the first
12 Tuesday in February [~~March~~] in each presidential election year.

13 SECTION 2. Section 172.023(a), Election Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (a) An application for a place on the general primary
16 election ballot must be filed not later than 6 p.m. on the 65th day
17 before the general primary election day [~~January 2 in the primary~~
18 ~~election year~~] unless the filing deadline is extended under
19 Subchapter C.

20 SECTION 3. Section 181.0041, Election Code, is amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Sec. 181.0041. REGISTRATION OF PARTY REQUIRED. A
23 political party that intends to make nominations under this chapter
24 for the general election for state and county officers must

1 register with the secretary of state, in the manner prescribed by
2 the secretary, not later than the regular filing deadline for
3 candidates in the general primary election [~~January 2 of the~~
4 ~~election year~~].

5 SECTION 4. Section 181.033(a), Election Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), an application for
8 nomination by a convention must be filed not later than the regular
9 filing deadline for candidates in the general primary election [~~5~~
10 ~~p.m. on January 2 preceding the convention~~].

11 SECTION 5. Sections 181.061(b) and (c), Election Code, are
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (b) A party nominating by convention must make its
14 nominations for offices of districts situated in more than one
15 county at district conventions held on the second Saturday after
16 general primary election day [~~the second Tuesday in March~~]. A
17 district convention consists of delegates selected at the county
18 conventions held under Subsection (c).

19 (c) A party nominating by convention must make its
20 nominations for county and precinct offices and for offices of
21 districts not situated in more than one county at county
22 conventions held on the first Saturday after general primary
23 election day [~~the second Tuesday in March~~]. A county convention
24 consists of delegates selected at precinct conventions held on
25 general primary election day [~~the second Tuesday in March~~] in the
26 regular county election precincts.

27 SECTION 6. Section 182.005, Election Code, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 Sec. 182.005. NOMINATIONS MADE BY COUNTY CONVENTION. A
3 political party must make its nominations under this chapter at a
4 county convention held on the first Saturday after general primary
5 election day [~~the second Tuesday in March of the election year~~].
6 The convention consists of delegates selected at precinct
7 conventions held on general primary election day [~~the second~~
8 ~~Tuesday in March~~] in the regular county election precincts.

9 SECTION 7. The term of a person who is serving as a county or
10 precinct chair of a political party on the effective date of this
11 Act ends on the 20th day after the second Tuesday in March 2010.

12 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.