

By: Hochberg

H.B. No. 1457

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to procedures concerning verification of certain information submitted in a voter registration application.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 13, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 13.0725 to read as follows:

Sec. 13.0725. PROCESS FOR VERIFICATION OF APPLICANT'S TEXAS DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUED PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER, OR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER. (a) The secretary of state shall adopt rules establishing standards used for the verification of information on a voter registration application submitted by a registrar under Section 13.072(a)(2)(A). The rules shall provide a process by which the secretary of state verifies an applicant's Texas driver's license number or Department of Public Safety issued personal identification card number if, based on the available information, a minor correction in the applicant's last name or date of birth as submitted by the registrar would lead a reasonable person to conclude that the number submitted is the correct number for that applicant.

(b) If available, the secretary of state shall provide the registrar with the name and date of birth maintained by the Department of Public Safety or other agency used in the verification process for a submitted application that corresponds

1 to the Texas driver's license number, Department of Public Safety
2 issued personal identification card number, or social security
3 number submitted by the registrar for verification if:

4 (1) the secretary of state cannot verify the accuracy
5 of an applicant's Texas driver's license number, Department of
6 Public Safety issued personal identification card number, or social
7 security number as submitted by the registrar; or

8 (2) the secretary of state verifies the accuracy of
9 the number provided, but it is not a perfect match with the personal
10 information provided by the registrar.

11 (c) A registrar shall review the information provided by the
12 secretary of state under Subsection (b). If the registrar
13 determines that a governmental clerical error was made in
14 processing or submitting the application, the registrar shall
15 correct the registration record and submit a corrected record to
16 the secretary of state as notice of the correction, and for
17 verification under Section 13.072(a)(2) if the application was not
18 verified.

19 SECTION 2. Section 13.073(a), Election Code, is amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the registrar
22 shall deliver written notice of the reason for the rejection of an
23 application to the applicant not later than the second day after the
24 date of rejection. If an application is rejected because it was not
25 verified by the secretary of state under Section 13.072, the notice
26 shall indicate whether the last name, date of birth, Texas driver's
27 license number, Department of Public Safety issued personal

1 identification card number, or social security number was the
2 reason for the failure to verify, if that information is provided to
3 the registrar by the secretary of state under Section 13.0725.

4 SECTION 3. Not later than January 1, 2010, the secretary of
5 state shall adopt rules establishing the standards required by
6 Section 13.0725, Election Code, as added by this Act.

7 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.