

By: Bucy

H. B. No. 933

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 1 AN ACT

2 relating to posting of election information on the secretary of  
3 state's and each county's Internet website.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 4.003(b), Election Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

21 SECTION 2. Section 31.012(a), Election Code, as effective  
22 September 1, 2020, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The secretary of state and the voter registrar of each  
24 county [that maintains a website] shall provide notice of the

1 identification requirements for voting prescribed by Chapter 63 and  
2 that straight ticket voting has been eliminated pursuant to H.B.  
3 25, Acts of the 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, on each  
4 entity's respective website in each language in which voter  
5 registration and election materials are available. The secretary  
6 of state shall prescribe the wording of the notice to be included on  
7 the websites.

8 SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 31, Election Code, is  
9 amended by adding Section 31.016 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 31.016. VOTER INFORMATION ON SECRETARY OF STATE'S  
11 WEBSITE. (a) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures  
12 requiring the county officer responsible for administering  
13 elections to submit contact information of the county election  
14 office to the secretary of state for inclusion on the secretary of  
15 state's Internet website, including:

16                   (1) the street address and zip code;  
17                   (2) the mailing address if different from the address  
18 provided in Subdivision (1);  
19                   (3) telephone number;  
20                   (4) facsimile number; and  
21                   (5) e-mail address.

22                   (b) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures  
23 requiring each entity designating the location of a polling place,  
24 including an early voting polling place, to submit information on  
25 the location to the secretary of state for inclusion on the  
26 secretary of state's Internet website.

27                   (c) For each polling place the information submitted must

1 include:

2                   (1) the name of the building in which the polling place

3 is located, if available;

4                   (2) the street address and zip code of the polling

5 place; and

6                   (3) the days and hours of voting at each location.

7                   (d) The polling information under Subsection (c) shall be

8 posted on the secretary of state's Internet website in a

9 downloadable format.

10                 SECTION 4. Subchapter E, Chapter 31, Election Code, is  
11 amended by adding Section 31.125 to read as follows:

12                 Sec. 31.125. COUNTY WEBSITE. (a) The county officer  
13 responsible for administering elections shall post on the county's  
14 Internet website contact information for the county election office  
15 including:

16                   (1) the street address and zip code;

17                   (2) the mailing address if different from the address  
18 provided in Subdivision (1);

19                   (3) telephone number;

20                   (4) facsimile number; and

21                   (5) e-mail address.

22                 (b) For each polling place located in the county, the county  
23 shall post on the county's Internet website:

24                   (1) the name of the building in which the polling place  
25 is located, if available;

26                   (2) the street address and zip code of the polling  
27 place; and

(3) the days and hours of voting at each location.

SECTION 5. Section 32.114(c), Election Code, is amended to  
s follows:

(c) The county clerk shall:

10 (2) notify each presiding judge appointed by the  
11 commissioners court of the time and place of each session and of the  
12 duty of each election judge to complete the training program;

13 (3) notify the county chair of each political party in  
14 the county of the time and place of each session; and

15 (4) notify the voter registrar of the date, hour, and  
16 place of each session.

17 SECTION 6. Section 42.035(a), Election Code, is amended to  
18 read as follows:

23                           (1)    in a newspaper in the county once a week for three  
24 consecutive weeks; and

25 (2) on the county's Internet website for three  
26 consecutive weeks.

27 SECTION 7. Section 43.061(c), Election Code, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (c) Notice required by Subsection (b) must be given by:

3 (1) notifying each candidate whose name appears on the  
4 ballot in the election or, in the case of an office filled by voters  
5 of more than one county, notifying the county chair or, for an  
6 independent candidate, the county judge of the county in which the  
7 change occurs; or

8 (2) posting the notice in a listing used specifically  
9 to inform the public of changes to the location of a polling place  
10 on the ~~[any]~~ Internet website that the county clerk maintains to  
11 provide information on elections held in the county.

12 SECTION 8. Section 66.059, Election Code, is amended by  
13 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as  
14 follows:

15 (b) If the political subdivision holding the election is not  
16 a county, the ~~[The]~~ district judge shall post a notice of the date,  
17 hour, and place for opening the box on the bulletin board used for  
18 posting notices of the meetings of the governing body of the  
19 political subdivision served by the general custodian of election  
20 records. The notice must remain posted continuously for the 24  
21 hours immediately preceding the hour set for opening the box.

22 (b-1) If the political subdivision holding the election is a  
23 county, the district judge shall post a notice of the date, hour,  
24 and place for opening the box on the county's Internet website. The  
25 notice must remain posted continuously for the 24 hours preceding  
26 the hour set for opening the box.

27 SECTION 9. Section 67.012(b), Election Code, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (b) The secretary of state shall post, on the secretary of  
3 state's Internet website [bulletin board used for posting notice of  
4 ~~meetings of state governmental bodies~~], a notice of the date, hour,  
5 and place of the canvass at least 72 hours before the canvass is  
6 conducted.

7 SECTION 10. Section 85.007(c), Election Code, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (c) Notice under Subsection (b) shall be posted  
10 continuously for at least 72 hours immediately preceding the first  
11 hour that the voting to which the notice pertains will be conducted.

12 The notice shall be posted on:

19 SECTION 11. Section 85.067(d), Elec

20 read as follows:

21 (d) The schedule shall be posted on:  
22 (1) the bulletin board used for posting notice of  
23 meetings of the governing body of the political subdivision served  
24 by the authority ordering the election or, if the early voting clerk  
25 is the [county clerk or] city secretary, meetings of the  
26 [commissioners court or] city governing body; or

27 (2) the county's Internet website if the early voting

1 clerk is the county clerk [~~, as applicable~~].

2 SECTION 12. Section 87.027, Election Code, is amended by  
3 amending Subsection (k) and adding Subsection (k-1) to read as  
4 follows:

5 (k) Postings required by this section shall be made on the  
6 bulletin board used for posting notice of meetings of the  
7 ~~[commissioners court, in an election for which the county election~~  
8 ~~board is established or a primary election, or of the]~~ governing  
9 body of the political subdivision in an election other than an  
10 election for which the county election board is established or a  
11 primary election ~~[other elections]~~.

12 (k-1) Postings required by this section shall be made on the  
13 county's Internet website in an election for which the county  
14 election board is established or a primary election.

15 SECTION 13. Section 172.113(d), Election Code, is amended  
16 to read as follows:

17 (d) The authority shall make periodic announcements of the  
18 current state of the tabulation, including by posting the  
19 announcements on the Internet website of the county~~[, if the county~~  
20 ~~maintains a website]~~.

21 SECTION 14. Section 181.006(k), Election Code, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (k) The secretary of state shall post a notice of the  
24 receipt of a petition on the secretary of state's Internet website  
25 and may post the notice on a bulletin board used for posting notice  
26 of meetings of state governmental bodies. Any person may challenge  
27 the validity of the petition by filing a written statement of the

1 challenge with the secretary of state not later than the fifth day  
2 after the date notice is posted. The secretary of state may verify  
3 the petition signatures regardless of whether the petition is  
4 timely challenged.

5 SECTION 15. Section 203.012(c), Election Code, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (c) The secretary of state shall post, on the secretary of  
8 state's Internet website ~~[bulletin board used for posting notice of~~  
9 ~~meetings of state governmental bodies~~], a notice of the date, hour,  
10 and place of the canvass at least 24 hours before the canvass is  
11 conducted.

12 SECTION 16. Section 274.002(c), Election Code, is amended  
13 to read as follows:

14 (c) The secretary of state shall post on the secretary of  
15 state's Internet website and may post on a bulletin board for  
16 posting notice of a meeting of a state governmental body a notice of  
17 the date, hour, and place of the drawing. The notice must remain  
18 posted continuously for 72 hours immediately preceding the  
19 scheduled time of the drawing.

20 SECTION 17. (a) Not later than September 1, 2019, the  
21 secretary of state shall post the information as required by  
22 Section 31.016, Election Code, as added by this Act.

23 (b) Not later than October 1, 2019, the county shall post  
24 information as required by Section 31.125, Election Code, as added  
25 by this Act.

26 SECTION 18. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.