

1-1 By: Dean (Senate Sponsor - Hughes) H.B. No. 3920
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 17, 2021;
 1-3 May 17, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on State
 1-4 Affairs; May 21, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 6, Nays 3; May 21, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12		X		
1-13	X			
1-14		X		
1-15	X			
1-16		X		

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to an application to vote early by mail on the grounds of
 1-20 disability or confinement for childbirth.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. The heading to Section 82.002, Election Code, is
 1-23 amended to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 82.002. DISABILITY OR CONFINEMENT FOR CHILDBIRTH.

1-25 SECTION 2. Section 82.002, Election Code, is amended by
 1-26 amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read
 1-27 as follows:

1-28 (a) A qualified voter is eligible for early voting by mail
 1-29 if the voter:

1-30 (1) has a sickness or physical condition that prevents
 1-31 the voter from appearing at the polling place on election day
 1-32 without a likelihood of needing personal assistance or of injuring
 1-33 the voter's health; or

1-34 (2) is expecting to give birth within three weeks
 1-35 before or after election day.

1-36 (b) The following do not constitute [Expected or likely
 1-37 confinement for childbirth on election day is] sufficient cause to
 1-38 entitle a voter to vote under Subsection (a):

1-39 (1) a lack of transportation;

1-40 (2) a sickness that does not prevent the voter from
 1-41 appearing at the polling place on election day without a likelihood
 1-42 of needing personal assistance or of injuring the voter's health;
 1-43 or

1-44 (3) a requirement to appear at the voter's place of
 1-45 employment on election day.

1-46 (c) To be eligible for an early voting ballot by mail under
 1-47 Subsection (a)(1), an applicant must affirmatively indicate that he
 1-48 or she agrees with the statement prescribed by Section 84.002(c).

1-49 SECTION 3. Section 84.002, Election Code, is amended by
 1-50 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

1-51 (c) An application for a ballot to be voted by mail on the
 1-52 ground of disability must require the applicant to affirmatively
 1-53 indicate that the applicant agrees with the statement, "I have a
 1-54 sickness or physical condition that prevents me from appearing at
 1-55 the polling place on election day without a likelihood of needing
 1-56 personal assistance or injuring my health," as prescribed by
 1-57 Section 82.002(a).

1-58 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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