

1-1 By: Guillen, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Paxton) H.B. No. 521  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 14, 2025;  
1-3 May 19, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on State  
1-4 Affairs; May 23, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote:  
1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 1; May 23, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
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	X			
1-18		X		

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to accommodating voters with a disability; creating a  
1-22 criminal offense.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 61.003(a), Election Code, is amended to  
1-25 read as follows:

1-26 (a) A person commits an offense if, during the voting period  
1-27 and within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may  
1-28 enter the building in which a polling place is located or within 20  
1-29 feet of a parking space designated for curbside voting under  
1-30 Section 64.009, the person:

- 1-31 (1) loiters; or  
1-32 (2) electioneers for or against any candidate,  
1-33 measure, or political party.

1-34 SECTION 2. Section 64.009, Election Code, is amended by  
1-35 amending Subsections (a), (a-1), (f), (g), and (h) and adding  
1-36 Subsections (a-3), (a-4), (a-5), (i), and (j) to read as follows:

1-37 (a) Subject to Subsection (a-5), if ~~if~~ a voter is  
1-38 physically unable to enter the polling place without personal  
1-39 assistance or likelihood of injuring the voter's health, on the  
1-40 voter's request, an election officer shall deliver a ballot to the  
1-41 voter at the polling place entrance or curb.

1-42 (a-1) At each polling place an area for parking not smaller  
1-43 than the size of one parking space shall be reserved for voting  
1-44 under this section. The area may not be designated specifically for  
1-45 persons with disabilities. The area must be clearly marked with a  
1-46 sign:

1-47 (1) indicating that the space is reserved for use by a  
1-48 voter who is unable to enter the polling place; ~~and~~

1-49 (2) displaying, in large font that is clearly readable  
1-50 from a vehicle, a telephone number that a voter may call or text to  
1-51 request assistance from an election officer at the polling place;  
1-52 and

1-53 (3) displaying, in large font that is clearly readable  
1-54 from a vehicle, that electioneering is prohibited within 20 feet of  
1-55 the parking space.

1-56 (a-3) Before an election officer may deliver a ballot to a  
1-57 voter under Subsection (a), the voter must complete and sign a form,  
1-58 provided by the election officer, that contains the following  
1-59 statement: "I swear (or affirm) under penalty of perjury that I am  
1-60 physically unable to enter the polling place without personal  
1-61 assistance or likelihood of injuring my health, or I am requesting a

reasonable accommodation under Section 1.022, Election Code. Therefore, I am requesting to vote outside the polling place."

(a-4) Except as provided by Subchapter B, an election officer who delivers a ballot to the voter at the polling place entrance or curb may not provide assistance in marking the ballot.

(a-5) If four or more election officers are present at the polling place, two election officers shall deliver a ballot to the voter at the polling place entrance or curb.

(f) A person who, during the early voting period and on election day, ~~[simultaneously]~~ assists seven or more voters voting under this section by providing the voters with transportation to the polling place must complete and sign a form, provided by an election officer, that contains the person's name and address and whether the person is providing assistance solely under this section or under both this section and Subchapter B.

(g) A form completed under Subsection (a-3) or (f) shall be delivered to the secretary of state as soon as practicable. The secretary shall retain a form delivered under this section for the period for preserving the precinct election records and shall make the form available to the attorney general for inspection upon request.

(h) The secretary of state shall prescribe the forms and process required by this section and adopt rules necessary to implement this section ~~[form described by Subsection (f)]~~.

(i) A person commits an offense if the person intentionally fails to complete the form required by Subsection (f).

(j) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 3. Section 64.0322, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(a) A person~~[, other than an election officer,]~~ who assists a voter in accordance with this chapter is required to complete a form stating:

(1) the name and address of the person assisting the voter;

(2) the relationship to the voter of the person assisting the voter; and

(3) whether the person assisting the voter received or accepted any form of compensation or other benefit from a candidate, campaign, or political committee.

(c) Not later than the 30th day after the date of the election, the county clerk shall report to the secretary of state information regarding any individual who assisted a total of seven or more voters during the early voting period and on election day.

SECTION 4. Section 85.036(a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) During the time an early voting polling place is open for the conduct of early voting, a person may not electioneer for or against any candidate, measure, or political party:

(1) in or within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may enter the building or structure in which the early voting polling place is located; or

(2) within 20 feet of a parking space designated for curbside voting under Section 64.009.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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