

1-1 By: Bettencourt, et al. S.B. No. 508
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 25, 2024; February 3, 2025,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
1-4 March 31, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
1-5 Nays 0; March 31, 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 preparing and delivering precinct election returns;
1-22 increasing a criminal penalty.

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

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 65.014(e), Election Code, is amended to
1-25 read as follows:

1-26 (e) An offense under Subsection (d) is a Class A [~~B~~]
1-27 misdemeanor.

1-28 SECTION 2. Section 66.055, Election Code, is amended to
1-29 read as follows:

1-30 Sec. 66.055. ~~FAILURE TO DELIVER [JUDICIAL IMPOUNDMENT OF]~~
1-31 ~~ELECTION RECORDS.~~ (a) If the precinct election records are not
1-32 delivered by the deadline prescribed by Section 66.053(c):

1-33 (1) the secretary of state may supervise the
1-34 activities necessary to complete the count, prepare the precinct
1-35 returns, and distribute the records; or

1-36 (2)[7] on application by a member of the canvassing
1-37 authority, a district judge shall order the precinct election
1-38 records to be impounded.

1-39 (b) If the precinct election records are impounded under
1-40 Subsection (a)(2), the [The] district judge shall supervise the
1-41 activities necessary to complete the count, prepare the precinct
1-42 returns, and distribute the records.

1-43 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act in amending
1-44 Section 65.014(e), Election Code, applies only to an offense
1-45 committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense
1-46 committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the
1-47 law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former
1-48 law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this
1-49 section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this
1-50 Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

1-51 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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