

By: Israel

H.B. No. 2410

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority to conduct a runoff primary election by mail in certain counties.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 172, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 172.129 to read as follows:

Sec. 172.129. VOTING BY MAIL IN CERTAIN RUNOFF PRIMARY ELECTIONS. (a) The state chair of a political party may by order require a runoff primary election to be conducted in a county only by mail if:

(1) fewer than 50 votes were cast in the county in the party's general primary election; and

(2) a runoff election is required in the county only for statewide offices or district offices filled by voters of more than one county.

(b) If the state chair of the political party requires the conduct of a runoff primary election only by mail, the state chair shall send the order to the county clerk not later than the fifth day after the local canvass is completed.

(c) The county clerk shall provide an official ballot in the manner provided by Chapter 86 to each registered voter in a county who:

(1) voted in the party's general primary election; or

(2) requests in writing a ballot for the runoff

1 primary election and is otherwise eligible to vote in the election.

2 (d) The county clerk shall be reimbursed for costs of  
3 conducting the runoff election by mail from the same funds that  
4 would provide for a runoff primary election by personal appearance.

5 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.