

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 500
By: Zaffirini
State Affairs
4-8-97
Committee Report (Amended)

DIGEST

Currently, a voter registration application is not required to include an applicant's driver's license number or personal identification number issued by the Department of Public Safety. It is often impossible to identify duplicate voter registrations because there is no unique number with which to identify voters who are registered in more than one county or in the same county. S.B. 500 would require most voter registration applications to include the applicant's driver's license number, which is a unique number, therefore enabling the state and counties to identify duplicate registrations.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 500 outlines provisions regarding the contents of a voter registration application.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 13.122(a), Election Code, to delete text requiring a space for the applicant's Texas driver's license number of a personal identification card issued by the department to be included on an official prescribed registration application form. Deletes text requiring a statement indicating that furnishing the applicant's driver's license number and personal identification cards number on the officially prescribed application form is optional. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 20.063, Election Code, by adding Subsection (d), to require the Department of Public Safety (department) to enter the appropriate information on the application if a completed voter registration application submitted to a department employee does not include the applicant's correct residence address, mailing address, driver's license or personal identification card number.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Amendment 1.

Adds SECTION 1, Section 16.031(a), Election Code, and renumbers remaining sections.

Amendment 2.

Page 3, line 19, amends Section 20.063, Election Code, to add "residence address, mailing address," between "correct" and "driver's."

Amendment 3.

Deletes proposed SECTIONS 1 and 2.