BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 76R1742 PAM-F C.S.H.B. 1140 By: Thompson (Armbrister) Criminal Justice 5/14/1999 Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST

Currently, clerks must send a certified copy of each felony judgment of conviction to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) and an abstract of the final felony conviction to the voter registrar in the felon's county of residence. This is a duplication of reporting requirements performed by TDCJ, as TDCJ is also required to send felony information to voter registrars of Texas. An additional duplication is that some district clerks enter felony conviction data into their local jury pool and voter registration system, and report this information to the Department of Public Safety (DPS), which stores the information in a statewide data bank. C.S.H.B. 1140 would require the DPS, rather than certain clerks, to send an abstract of felony judgment to the voter registrar.

PURPOSE

As proposed, C.S.H.B. 1140 amends regulations regarding a voter registration notice on a person convicted of a felony.

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 16.003, Election Code, to delete text regarding requirements regarding the felony jurisdiction of the clerk of the court.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.