BILL ANALYSIS

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law provides that a change in a single-member city council district boundary is not effective for an election unless the date of the ordinance adopting the boundary change is more than five months before the election day. Recent annexation of a municipality has left the newly annexed citizens of the municipality without the right to participate in an upcoming election. S.B. 752 would allow the newly annexed citizens to participate in a city election process by recognizing their residency in an area prior to annexation.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 752 establishes residents' voting rights and the right to file for candidacy after an area is annexed by certain small and medium sized municipalities.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. EFFECT OF ANNEXATION ON VOTING RIGHTS AND RIGHT TO FILE FOR CANDIDACY. Provides that this section applies only to a home-rule municipality with a population of 110,000 or less as shown by the most recent federal decennial census. Requires the municipality to permit all qualified voters residing in the annexed area to vote in municipal elections; and any qualified person residing in the annexed area to file as a candidate for municipal office if the person satisfies the residency requirements in a municipal election held on or after the 90th day after the effective date of an annexation, notwithstanding other law.

SECTION 2. EXTENSION OF FILING DEADLINE IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. Extends the filing deadline to the third day after the effective date of this Act to permit a person who resides in the annexed area to file for candidacy, if the filing deadline for a candidate's place on the ballot expires by other law before the effective date, in an election held under SECTION 1.

SECTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE OF ACT. Provides that this Act expires January 1, 2000.

SECTION 4. APPLICATION OF ACT. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 5. Emergency clause.
        Effective date: upon passage.