

Modifying the posting requirements of convention and election notices

HB 3252 by Allen (Zaffirini)

Digest

HB 3252 would have required presiding judges to post notices of precinct, county, senatorial, and state conventions at each outside door of a polling place before the opening of the polls during the early voting period and on Election Day. Such notices would have been required to remain posted continuously throughout the early voting period and on Election Day. The bill also would have required notices of elections to be posted on the county clerk's website if the county clerk maintained a website. If the clerk did not maintain a website, the notice would have had to be posted on the bulletin board used for posting the notices of meetings of the commissioners court.

Governor's reason for veto

"House Bill 3252 would change how the public is notified about a primary election, but in a way that could cause confusion and is now unnecessary. House Bill 3252 would require that notice of a primary election be posted on the county clerk's website, but in Texas, some county clerks are not responsible for administering elections. And House Bill 2640, which I have signed into law, now requires the same notice of a primary election to be posted on the county's official website. Disapproving House Bill 3252 will help ensure that voters know where to find information about how to cast their ballot."

Response

Rep. Alma Allen, the bill's author, said: "HB 3252 would have simply required notification of a primary election to be posted on a county clerk's website. While similar language was passed and signed in HB 2640 to have postings on county websites, we believe it's beneficial to voters to have that information easily accessible on the county clerk's website as well. Not all county clerks administer elections; however, the information should also

be easily accessible for voters where they would most likely search for it, on a county clerk's website."

Sen. Judith Zaffirini, the Senate sponsor, said: "HB 2640, which requires notice of a primary election to be posted on the county's official website, was signed by the governor. This means HB 3252, which would have required that information to be posted on the county clerk's website, is not necessary. Although some county clerks do not administer elections, many Texans look on their website for varied information, including about elections. Posting the notices on both websites may not be necessary, but could be very helpful."

Notes

The HRO analysis of [HB 3252](#) appeared in Part Three of the April 16 *Daily Floor Report*.