



---

## EIP's Legislative Wrap-up for Election Integrity Bills/89<sup>th</sup> Session

- Total of 29 bills passed; 25 written by Republicans, & 4 written by Democrats
- Of the 29, 15 were bills that we supported, 2 we didn't support, & 12 were not important to us, because they weren't our priorities, they weren't significantly helpful, or Nueces County already does it.
- Of the 29, 10 were House bills, 18 were Senate bills, and one was a SJR.

### Helpful to Election Integrity:

- SJR 37: Although this isn't law yet, this constitutional amendment (if approved by voters) requests more clearly defining & requiring citizenship for voting in Texas.
- HB 1661: election officials get higher penalties for not providing election supplies, inappropriately revealing # of votes, who's winning, who's voted, and what measures are passing/failing
- SB 510: Voter Registrars losing state funds for not timely removing voters from rolls
- SB 1470: SoS/DPS required to work closer/sharing information to reduce voter registration duplication between counties/states
- SB 1862: requiring Voter Registrars to monthly provide SoS with SPECIFIC info on voters whose previous residence was out of state; requiring SoS monthly to tell VRs when voters can be removed
- SB 2166: L&A tests extended to poll books (but not publicly); L&A tests being done much earlier than before; stringently improves public notice of unsuccessful L&A tests and requires repeating the L&A test; requires actual election machines be used for testing
- HB 493: convicted 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> degree felons (including election felonies) can't be poll watchers
- HB 521: loitering/electioneering get higher penalties/restrictions; curbside voters have to sign a form prior to curbside voting; stronger voter assistance language
- HB 2637: concerning juries: raising exemption age, better communicating the list of disqualified jurors from courts to SoS/VRs, District Clerks identifying juror/non-citizens & sharing information
- HB 5115: adjusting/increasing penalties for election offenses; making consistent w/other offenses
- SB 506: clearer ballot proposition language
- SB 509: requiring election-related Temporary Restraining Orders be submitted to the AG
- SB 827: improving election law regarding manual ballot counts
- SB 2217: increasing election reporting & reconciliation requirements
- SB 2753:
  - Requires that all counties do a lot of the things that Nueces already does
    - Zero tapes before starting
    - Inspecting ballot boxes before starting
    - Combining small precincts to reduce costs of voter locations needed
    - VR office staying open while voting goes on
  - What's new to Nueces and the rest of Texas:
    - Manual counting can begin on Election Day after polls are open 1 hr
    - Lots of ways that Early Voting and Election Day Voting are trying to be equalized
    - Extends hours of voting
    - Closes the gap between EV and ED
    - Requirement to separate ballots to be manually counted from tabulated ballots
    - Posting more specific info on website regarding how many voted when/where/how
    - Requiring Sundays may lose polling locations like Churches who need their facilities



---

**Hurts Election Integrity:**

- HB 3909: makes wireless devices only prohibited in a room where voting is taking place, & allowing the disabled to be exempt from the prohibition
- SB 2964: expands the mail-in ballot “curing” process; requires clerk to take more time and steps to encourage the curing; allows voter to do it online

**Either these weren’t our priorities, they weren’t significantly helpful, or our county already does it:**

- SB 914 allows small cities with council-manager government (like Alpine) to change their officer election date to November
- SB 985: fixing prior election law regarding combining precincts