Fifty-sixth Legislature Second Regular Session

COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL OVERSIGHT & ELECTIONS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO S.B. 1286 (Reference to Senate engrossed bill)

1 Page 1, strike lines 23 through 44

2 Strike pages 2 through 4

3 Page 5, strike lines 1 through 18, insert:

4 "A. The board of supervisors of each county, on or before October 1
5 of each year preceding the year of a general election, by an order, shall
6 establish a convenient number of election precincts in the county and
7 define the boundaries of the precincts as follows:

8 1. The election precinct boundaries shall be established so as to be 9 included within election districts prescribed by law for elected officers 10 of the state and its political subdivisions, including community college 11 district precincts, except those elected officers provided for in titles 30 12 and 48.

13 2. If after October 1 of the year preceding the year of a general
 14 election the board of supervisors must further adjust precinct boundaries
 15 due to the redistricting of election districts as prescribed by law and to
 16 comply with this subsection, the board of supervisors shall adjust these
 17 precinct boundaries as soon as is practicable.

B. At least twenty days before a general or primary election, and at least ten days before a special election, the board shall designate one polling place within each precinct where the election shall be held, except that:

5 1. On a specific finding of the board, included in the order or 6 resolution designating polling places pursuant to this subsection, that no 7 suitable polling place is available within a precinct, a polling place for 8 that precinct may be designated within an adjacent precinct.

9 2. Adjacent precincts may be combined if boundaries so established 10 are included in election districts prescribed by law for state elected 11 officials and political subdivisions including community college districts 12 but not including elected officials prescribed by titles 30 and 48. The 13 officer in charge of elections may also split a precinct for administrative 14 purposes. The polling places shall be listed in separate sections of the 15 order or resolution.

16 3. On a specific finding of the board that the number of persons who are listed as early voters pursuant to section 16-544 and who are not 17 expected to have their ballots tabulated at the polling place as prescribed 18 in section 16-579.02 is likely to substantially reduce the number of voters 19 appearing at one or more specific polling places at that election, adjacent 20 21 precincts may be consolidated by combining polling places and precinct 22 boards for that election. The board of supervisors shall ensure that a reasonable and adequate number of polling places will be designated for 23 that election. Any consolidated polling places shall be listed in separate 24 sections of the order or resolution of the board. 25

4. On a specific resolution of the board, the board may authorize the use of voting centers in place of or in addition to specifically designated polling places. A voting center shall allow any voter in that county to receive the appropriate ballot for that voter on election day after presenting identification as prescribed in section 16-579 and to lawfully cast the ballot. IN ADDITION TO SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED POLLING PLACES, voting centers may be established in coordination and consultation

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with the county recorder, at other county offices or at other locations in
 the county deemed appropriate.

5. On a specific resolution of the board of supervisors that is limited to a specific election date and that is voted on by a recorded vote, the board may authorize the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections to use emergency voting centers as follows:

7 (a) The board shall specify in the resolution the location and the
8 hours of operation of the emergency voting centers.

9 (b) A qualified elector voting at an emergency voting center shall 10 provide identification as prescribed in section 16-579, except that 11 notwithstanding section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 2, for any voting 12 at an emergency voting center, the county recorder or other officer in 13 charge of elections may allow a qualified elector to update the elector's 14 voter registration information as provided for in the secretary of state's 15 instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452.

16 (c) If an emergency voting center established pursuant to this 17 section becomes unavailable and there is not sufficient time for the board of supervisors to convene to approve an alternate location for that 18 emergency voting center, the county recorder or other officer in charge of 19 elections may make changes to the approved emergency voting center location 20 21 and shall notify the public and the board of supervisors regarding that 22 change as soon as practicable. The alternate emergency voting center shall be as close in proximity to the approved emergency voting center location 23 24 as possible.

C. If the board fails to designate the place for holding the 25 26 election, or if it cannot be held at or about the place designated, the 27 justice of the peace in the precinct, two days before the election, by an order, copies of which the justice of the peace shall immediately post in 28 29 three public places in the precinct, shall designate the place within the precinct for holding the election. If there is no justice of the peace in 30 31 the precinct, or if the justice of the peace fails to do so, the election 32 board of the precinct shall designate and give notice of the place within

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1 the precinct of holding the election. For any election in which there are 2 no candidates for elected office appearing on the ballot, the board may 3 consolidate polling places and precinct boards and may consolidate the 4 tabulation of results for that election if all of the following apply:

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1. All affected voters are notified by mail of the change at least 6 thirty-three days before the election.

2. Notice of the change in polling places includes notice of the new 7 8 voting location, notice of the hours for voting on election day and notice 9 of the telephone number to call for voter assistance.

3. All affected voters receive information on early voting that 10 includes the application used to request an early voting ballot. 11

12 D. The board is not required to designate a polling place for 13 special district mail ballot elections held pursuant to article 8.1 of this chapter, but the board may designate one or more sites for voters to 14 deposit marked ballots until 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election. 15

E. A STATE, COUNTY, CITY, TOWN OR SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE SHALL 16 PROVIDE SUFFICIENT SPACE FOR USE AS A POLLING PLACE FOR ANY STATE. COUNTY. 17 CITY OR TOWN ELECTION WHEN REQUESTED BY THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS. 18

19 E. F. Except as provided in subsection F of this section, A public school THAT IS OPERATED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT, THAT PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL 20 21 INSTRUCTION IN GRADES EIGHT THROUGH TWELVE AND THAT HAS A GYMNASIUM shall provide sufficient space for use as a polling place for any city, county or 22 23 state election when requested by the officer in charge of elections. IF 24 REQUESTED FOR USE AS A POLLING PLACE, THE SCHOOL IS EXEMPT FROM ANY STATE, LOCAL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS THAT WOULD PREVENT OR OTHERWISE LIMIT 25 26 THE USE OF THE SCHOOL AND ITS GYMNASIUM AS A POLLING PLACE. FOR THE 27 PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, "GYMNASIUM":

1. MEANS AN INDOOR ROOM OR FACILITY SUITABLE FOR SPORTING EVENTS. 28 INCLUDING BASKETBALL OR VOLLEYBALL. 29

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2. DOES NOT INCLUDE A CAFETERIA OR AN AUDITORIUM.

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F. The principal of the school may deny a request to provide space for use as a polling place for any city, county or state election if, within two weeks after a request has been made, the principal provides a written statement indicating a reason the election cannot be held in the school, including any of the following:

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1. Space is not available at the school.

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2. The safety or welfare of the children would be jeopardized.

6. Beginning in 2026, the department of administration shall coordinate with state agencies and counties to provide available and appropriate state-owned facilities for use as a voting location for any city, county or state election when requested by the officer in charge of elections.

H. The board shall make available to the public as a public record a
list of the polling places for all precincts in which the election is to be
held.

16 I. Except in the case of an emergency, any facility that is used as a polling place on election day or that is used as an early voting site 17 during the period of early voting shall allow persons to electioneer and 18 engage in other political activity outside of the seventy-five foot limit 19 prescribed by section 16-515 in public areas and parking lots used by 20 21 voters. This subsection does not allow the temporary or permanent 22 construction of structures in public areas and parking lots or the blocking or other impairment of access to parking spaces for voters. The county 23 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall post on its website 24 at least two weeks before election day a list of those polling places in 25 26 which emergency conditions prevent electioneering and shall specify the 27 reason the emergency designation was granted and the number of attempts that were made to find a polling place before granting an emergency 28 29 designation. If the polling place is not on the website list of polling places with emergency designations, electioneering and other political 30 31 activity shall be allowed outside of the seventy-five foot limit. If an 32 emergency arises after the county recorder or other officer in charge of

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elections' initial website posting, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall update the website as soon as is practicable to include any new polling places, shall highlight the polling place location on the website and shall specify the reason the emergency designation was granted and the number of attempts that were made to find a polling place before granting an emergency designation.

J. For the purposes of this section, a county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall designate a polling place as an emergency polling place and thus prohibit persons from electioneering and engaging in other political activity outside of the seventy-five foot limit prescribed by section 16-515 but inside the property of the facility that is hosting the polling place if any of the following occurs:

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1. An act of God renders a previously set polling place as unusable.

A county recorder or other officer in charge of elections has
exhausted all options and there are no suitable facilities in a precinct
that are willing to be a polling place unless a facility can be given an
emergency designation.

18 K. The secretary of state shall provide through the instructions and 19 procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452 the maximum allowable 20 wait time for any election that is subject to section 16-204 and provide 21 for a method to reduce voter wait time at the polls in the primary and 22 general elections. The method shall consider at least all of the following 23 for primary and general elections in each precinct:

The number of ballots voted in the prior primary and general
 elections.

2. The number of registered voters who voted early in the priorprimary and general elections.

3. The number of registered voters and the number of registered
voters who cast an early ballot for the current primary or general
election.

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4. The number of registered voters whose early ballots were
 tabulated on-site as prescribed in section 16-579.02 in the prior primary
 and general elections.

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5. The number of election board members and clerks and the number of rosters that will reduce voter wait time at the polls."

6 Amend title to conform

And, as so amended, it do pass

JACQUELINE PARKER CHAIRMAN

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