

SUBJECT: Prohibiting state voting systems from being developed in certain countries

COMMITTEE: State Affairs — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 12 ayes — Hunter, Hernandez, Anchía, Dean, Geren, Guillen, Metcalf,
Raymond, Slawson, Smithee, Spiller, Turner

0 nays

1 absent — S. Thompson

SENATE VOTE: On final passage (April 20) — 30 - 1

WITNESSES: For — Shawn Hall Lecuona, Almighty (*Registered, but did not testify*:
Tom Nobis, The Republican Party of Texas; Judi DeHaan; Teresa
Thomas; Lucy Trainor)

Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: John Mckiernan-Gonzalez)

BACKGROUND: Some have suggested that prohibiting a voting systems manufacturer from
contracting with entities headquartered in certain countries for software
development services could prevent interference in the vote counting
process.

DIGEST: SB 1846 would prohibit a voting systems manufacturer from entering into
a contract or extending or renewing a contract for software development
services with a company or other entity headquartered in or an individual
who was based in China, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, or Russia.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023, and would apply only to an
election ordered on or after the effective date.