BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1087 By: Patterson State Affairs 3-24-97 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, campaigns for elections mail early voting applications to a prescribed list of voters who formerly voted by mail. As a result, some workers from these campaigns have used this list to communicate with voters prior to their returning the application. S.B. 1087 would prescribe that only an "official" application from the early voting clerk or a written request from the voter would be acceptable.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1087 outlines provisions regarding the use and distribution of the form for an application for an early voting ballot.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 84.001(c), Education Code, to require, rather than not require, an applicant to use an officially prescribed, rather than an official, application form obtained from the early voting clerk on request of the applicant.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 84.011, Election Code, by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c), to set forth information required to be included on the officially prescribed application form for an early voting ballot. Requires each application form for a ballot to be voted by mail to be printed or marked with a number, code, or other notation, as approved by the secretary of state, that identifies the form as having been provided by the particular early voting clerk.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 84.012, Election Code, to make nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 4. Repealer: Section 84.013, Election Code (Application Forms Furnished by Secretary of State).

SECTION 5. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 6. Emergency clause.