

Here's the most current version of TAEA's SB 9 recommendations:

Remove Section 1.04 (IMPEDING ACCESS TO POLLING PLACE). Poll workers shouldn't see their territory of responsibility at a polling place increase **ten-fold**. Impeding access to a polling place is NOT a common enough occurrence to warrant statutory regulation. And in the rare instances it occurs, how would one establish/prove the intent of one in keeping another from reaching the polling place?

Remove Section 2.08 (OBSERVING PREPARATION OF VOTER'S BALLOT). The existing statute in section 33.057 is sufficient in that it does not impose the **burden on to poll workers** of verifying consanguinity or affinity of varying degrees. This section expands the instances where a voter's ballot privacy can be violated. It also gives unnecessary discretion to poll workers who would carry out this new responsibility haphazardly; leading to equal protection concerns.

Remove Section 2.10 This section in SB 9 grants an exception to recording of counting of ballots in a voting station for poll watchers. We contend that **NO ONE should have the authority to record images & sound in a voting station**. And it should remain so for the preservation of peace and privacy in a voting station (polling place).

Remove Section 2.11 This section is overly broad and, by implication, **requires anyone who provides transportation to a polling place for at least three others** to attest (under penalty of perjury?) to the physical impairments of another. Must the voter(s) await completion of the assistance form before voting? If so, we again could face equal protection challenges from disability groups.

Revise Section 2.12 [Sec 64.0322(b)] to read as: *The form must be ~~incorporated into~~ included in the official carrier envelope if the voter is voting an early voting ballot by mail...*

Remove Section 2.13 TAEA has concerns that requiring ballot-by-mail applicants to affirm their physical disability may violate the federal Americans with Disabilities Act. In general, the definition of *disability* is broader than just that of the physical realm. Cognitive disabilities (dyslexia, etc.) are ostensibly **not** covered in this section. We anticipate immediate court challenges to this section.

Revise Section 2.14 [Sec 86.013(f)] to read as: *The oath of a person assisting a voter and the form described by Section 64.0322(a) must be included ~~on~~ in the official carrier envelope as part of the certificate prescribed by Subsection (c).*

Remove Section 2.15 **NO ONE should have the authority to record images & sound in a room where a recount is being conducted**. This section grants that authority to a watcher. Their existing ability to take notes should suffice.

Use clearer language in Section 4.03 If it is the author's intent to merely require that at least one vote center be made available within a 3-mile radius of any voter's residence in counties with > 1 million population, the language of this section should more ably indicate that intent.

Extend deadline in Section 5.02 We'd like to see the effective deadline for counties to replace their paperless DRE's **extended to September 1, 2028**.