

CHAPTER 345

S.B. No. 862

An Act relating to the authority of counties, on a local option basis, to abolish the office of inspector of hides and animals; amending Section 146.054, Agriculture Code, by amending Subsections (a), (d), and (h) and adding Subsection (i).

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 146.054, Agriculture Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (d), and (h) and by adding Subsection (i) to read as follows:

“(a) The qualified voters of a county may petition the commissioners court to conduct an election to determine if the county shall elect an inspector of hides and animals. *If the county has elected an inspector of hides and animals, the qualified voters may petition the commissioners court to conduct an election to determine if the office of the inspector of hides and animals should be abolished.* Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, the petition must be signed by 25 voters of each justice precinct of the county. If a precinct contains fewer than 50 qualified voters, the petition must be signed by a majority of the voters of the precinct.”

“(d) All qualified voters are entitled to vote at an election under this section. *At an election to determine if the county shall elect an inspector of hides and animals, the [The] ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the proposition: ‘An inspector of hides and animals.’ At an election to determine if the office of the inspector of hides and animals should be abolished, the ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the proposition: ‘Abolition of the office of the inspector of hides and animals.’*”

“(h) *If the election is to determine if the county shall elect an inspector of hides and animals and a majority of the votes at the [an] election are cast for electing an inspector of hides and animals, a person holding that office retains office until the next general election or until a successor is elected and qualifies. If the county has no inspector, the commissioners court shall appoint a person to serve until the next general election.*

“(i) *If the election is to determine if the county should abolish the office of the inspector of hides and animals and a majority of the votes at the election are cast in favor of the proposition, the office is abolished on the date the commissioners court declares the results of the election. The records of an abolished office are transferred to the county clerk.*”

SECTION 2. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on April 18, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 17, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved: June 10, 1985

Effective: Immediately