

CHAPTER 498

H.B. No. 2369

AN ACT

relating to the identification of poll watchers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 33.006(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A certificate of appointment must:

- (1) be in writing and signed by the appointing authority or, for an appointment for a write-in candidate, by each of the voters making the appointment;
- (2) indicate the capacity in which the appointing authority is acting;
- (3) state the name, residence address, and voter registration number of the appointee *and be signed by the appointee*;
- (4) identify the election and the precinct polling place or other location at which the appointee is to serve; and
- (5) in an election on a measure, identify the measure if more than one is to be voted on and state which side of the measure the appointee represents.

SECTION 2. Section 33.051(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) *The officer presented with a watcher's certificate of appointment shall require the watcher to countersign the certificate to ensure that the watcher is the same person who signed the certificate.* A watcher who presents himself at the proper time with a certificate of appointment shall be accepted for service unless the person is

ineligible to serve or the number of appointees to which the appointing authority is entitled have already been accepted.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 1987.

SECTION 4. 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.

Passed by the House on May 8, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate on May 23, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 17, 1987.

Effective Sept. 1, 1987.