

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

Austin, Texas

5/31/2025  
Date

Honorable Dan Patrick  
President of the Senate

Honorable Dustin Burrows  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs:

We, Your Conference Committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives on Senate Bill 1540 have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Paul Bettencourt  
Bettencourt

Brian Birdwell  
Birdwell

Maya Middleton  
Middleton

Angela Paxton  
Paxton

Zaffarini  
On the part of the Senate Zaffarini

Capriglione

Bucy

M. Gonzalez  
Gonzalez, M.

Leach

Shahden  
On the part of the House Shahden

Note to Conference Committee Clerk:

Please type the names of the members of the Conference Committee under the lines provided for signature. Those members desiring to sign the report should sign each of the six copies. Attach a copy of the Conference Committee Report and a Section by Section side by side comparison to each of the six reporting forms. The original and two copies are filed in house of origin of the bill, and three copies in the other house.



# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

3<sup>rd</sup> Printing

S.B. No. 1540

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to maintaining the confidentiality of the personal  
information of election officials and their employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 1.005(4-a), Election Code, is amended to  
read as follows:

(4-a) "Election official" means:

- (A) a county clerk;
- (B) a permanent or temporary deputy county clerk;
- (C) an elections administrator;
- (D) a permanent or temporary employee of an  
elections administrator;
- (E) an election judge;
- (F) an alternate election judge;
- (G) an early voting clerk;
- (H) a deputy early voting clerk;
- (I) an election clerk;
- (J) the presiding judge of an early voting ballot  
board;
- (K) the alternate presiding judge of an early  
voting ballot board;
- (L) a member of an early voting ballot board;
- (M) the chair of a signature verification  
committee;

- 1 (N) the vice chair of a signature verification  
2 committee;
- 3 (O) a member of a signature verification  
4 committee;
- 5 (P) the presiding judge of a central counting  
6 station;
- 7 (Q) the alternate presiding judge of a central  
8 counting station;
- 9 (R) a central counting station manager;
- 10 (S) a central counting station clerk;
- 11 (T) a tabulation supervisor;
- 12 (U) an assistant to a tabulation supervisor;
- 13 ~~[and]~~
- 14 (V) a chair of a county political party holding a  
15 primary election or a runoff primary election; and
- 16 (W) the chair of a state executive committee of a  
17 political party that nominates by primary election under Subtitle  
18 B, Title 10.

19 SECTION 2. Section 552.1175(a), Government Code, is amended  
20 to read as follows:

21 (a) This section applies only to:

22 (1) current or honorably retired peace officers as  
23 defined by Article 2A.001, Code of Criminal Procedure, or special  
24 investigators as described by Article 2A.002, Code of Criminal  
25 Procedure;

26 (2) current or honorably retired county jailers as  
27 defined by Section 1701.001, Occupations Code;

1           (3) current or former employees of the Texas  
2 Department of Criminal Justice or of the predecessor in function of  
3 the department or any division of the department;

4           (4) commissioned security officers as defined by  
5 Section 1702.002, Occupations Code;

6           (5) a current or former district attorney, criminal  
7 district attorney, or county or municipal attorney whose  
8 jurisdiction includes any criminal law or child protective services  
9 matters;

10          (5-a) a current or former employee of a district  
11 attorney, criminal district attorney, or county or municipal  
12 attorney whose jurisdiction includes any criminal law or child  
13 protective services matters;

14          (6) officers and employees of a community supervision  
15 and corrections department established under Chapter 76 who perform  
16 a duty described by Section 76.004(b);

17          (7) criminal investigators of the United States as  
18 described by Article 2A.002(a), Code of Criminal Procedure;

19          (8) current or honorably retired police officers and  
20 inspectors of the United States Federal Protective Service;

21          (9) current and former employees of the office of the  
22 attorney general who are or were assigned to a division of that  
23 office the duties of which involve law enforcement or are performed  
24 under Chapter 231, Family Code;

25          (10) current or former juvenile probation and  
26 detention officers certified by the Texas Juvenile Justice  
27 Department, or the predecessors in function of the department,

1 under Title 12, Human Resources Code;

2 (11) current or former employees of a juvenile justice  
3 program or facility, as those terms are defined by Section 261.405,  
4 Family Code;

5 (12) current or former employees of the Texas Juvenile  
6 Justice Department or the predecessors in function of the  
7 department;

8 (13) federal judges and state judges as defined by  
9 Section 1.005, Election Code;

10 (14) current or former employees of the Texas Civil  
11 Commitment Office or of the predecessor in function of the office or  
12 a division of the office;

13 (15) a current or former member of the United States  
14 Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, or Marine Corps, an auxiliary  
15 service of one of those branches of the armed forces, or the Texas  
16 military forces, as that term is defined by Section 437.001;

17 (16) a current or former child protective services  
18 caseworker, adult protective services caseworker, or investigator  
19 for the Department of Family and Protective Services or a current or  
20 former employee of a department contractor performing child  
21 protective services caseworker, adult protective services  
22 caseworker, or investigator functions for the contractor on behalf  
23 of the department;

24 (17) an elected public officer;

25 (18) a firefighter or volunteer firefighter or  
26 emergency medical services personnel as defined by Section 773.003,  
27 Health and Safety Code; ~~and~~

1           (19) a current or former United States attorney,  
2 assistant United States attorney, federal public defender, deputy  
3 federal public defender, or assistant federal public defender; or

4           (20) a current or former election official, as defined  
5 by Section 1.005, Election Code, or employee, volunteer, or  
6 designee of an election official, or an employee of the secretary of  
7 state's office who performs duties relating to elections.

8           SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
9 a request for information that is received by a governmental body or  
10 an officer on or after the effective date of this Act. A request for  
11 information that was received before the effective date of this Act  
12 is governed by the law in effect on the date the request was  
13 received, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
14 purpose.

15           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

**Senate Bill 1540**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

SENATE VERSION

*No equivalent provision.*

HOUSE VERSION (IE)

SECTION \_\_. Section 1.005(4-a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(4-a) "Election official" means:

- (A) a county clerk;
- (B) a permanent or temporary deputy county clerk;
- (C) an elections administrator;
- (D) a permanent or temporary employee of an elections administrator;
- (E) an election judge;
- (F) an alternate election judge;
- (G) an early voting clerk;
- (H) a deputy early voting clerk;
- (I) an election clerk;
- (J) the presiding judge of an early voting ballot board;
- (K) the alternate presiding judge of an early voting ballot board;
- (L) a member of an early voting ballot board;
- (M) the chair of a signature verification committee;
- (N) the vice chair of a signature verification committee;
- (O) a member of a signature verification committee;
- (P) the presiding judge of a central counting station;
- (Q) the alternate presiding judge of a central counting station;
- (R) a central counting station manager;
- (S) a central counting station clerk;
- (T) a tabulation supervisor;
- (U) an assistant to a tabulation supervisor; [and]
- (V) a chair of a county political party holding a primary election or a runoff primary election; and
- (W) a member, including the chair and vice chair, of a state executive committee of a political party that nominates by primary election under Subtitle B, Title 10. [FA1]

CONFERENCE

SECTION 1. Section 1.005(4-a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(4-a) "Election official" means:

- (A) a county clerk;
- (B) a permanent or temporary deputy county clerk;
- (C) an elections administrator;
- (D) a permanent or temporary employee of an elections administrator;
- (E) an election judge;
- (F) an alternate election judge;
- (G) an early voting clerk;
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- (O) a member of a signature verification committee;
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- (Q) the alternate presiding judge of a central counting station;
- (R) a central counting station manager;
- (S) a central counting station clerk;
- (T) a tabulation supervisor;
- (U) an assistant to a tabulation supervisor; [and]
- (V) a chair of a county political party holding a primary election or a runoff primary election; and
- (W) the chair of a state executive committee of a political party that nominates by primary election under Subtitle B, Title 10.



**Senate Bill 1540**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

SENATE VERSION	HOUSE VERSION (IE)	CONFERENCE
SECTION 1. Section 552.1175(a), Government Code, is amended.	SECTION 1. Same as Senate version.	SECTION 2. Same as Senate version.
SECTION 2. Saving provision.	SECTION 2. Same as Senate version.	SECTION 3. Same as Senate version.
SECTION 3. Effective date.	SECTION 3. Same as Senate version.	SECTION 4. Same as Senate version.

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 31, 2025**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor, Senate  
Honorable Dustin Burrows, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

**FROM:** Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: SB1540** by Bettencourt (Relating to maintaining the confidentiality of the personal information of election officials and their employees.), **Conference Committee Report**

<b>No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated

**Source Agencies:** 307 Secretary of State

**LBB Staff:** JMc, SD, RStu, WP, BC, CWi