



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

March 18, 2020

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
10:00 AM CLOCK

The Honorable Ruth R. Hughs  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Room 1E.8  
Austin, Texas 78701

MAR 18 2020  
*Ruth R. Hughs*  
Secretary of State

Dear Secretary Hughs:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

A proclamation suspending Sections 41.0052(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code and Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code to the extent necessary to allow political subdivisions that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020, to move their general and special elections for 2020 only to the next uniform election date, occurring on November 3, 2020, without otherwise adjusting the term of office, and suspending Sections 31.093 and 42.0621(c) of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to require all county election officers, if requested by an affected political subdivision, to enter into a contract to furnish election services with any political subdivision who postponed their election to November 3, 2020, under the authority of this proclamation.

The original of this proclamation is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gregory S. Davidson*  
Gregory S. Davidson  
Executive Clerk to the Governor  
GSD/gsd

Attachment

March 23, 2020  
(Exhibit # 11)



# Texas Secretary of State

## Ruth R. Hughs

COVID-19 -- As recommended precautions continue to increase for COVID-19, the James E. Rudder X Building will be closed to visitors and customers beginning Wednesday, March 18, 2020. The Office of the Secretary of State is committed to continuing to provide services to ensure business and public filings remain available 24/7 through our online business service, [SOSDirect](#), as well as [United States Postal mail](#), [email](#), and [faxes](#). If needed, you may schedule an appointment related to apostilles by calling (512) 463-5705. Calls will be accepted Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Thank you in advance for your patience during this difficult time.

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Note - Navigational menus along with other non-content related elements have been removed for your convenience. Thank you for visiting us online.

## Election Advisory No. 2020-12

**To:** Election Officials

**From:** Keith Ingram, Director of Elections

**Date:** March 18, 2020

**RE:** Actions for May 2, 2020 Uniform Election Date

The purpose of this advisory is to provide guidance to local political subdivisions regarding their options for any general or special elections that have been ordered for the May 2, 2020 uniform election date. Pursuant to Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor has issued a [proclamation \(PDF\)](#) suspending certain provisions of the Texas Election Code and the Texas Water Code to allow all local political subdivisions that are utilizing the May 2, 2020 uniform election date to postpone their election to the November 3, 2020 uniform election date. Pursuant to Texas Election Code 31.003 and 31.004, our office has issued the following guidelines for entities that choose to exercise this authority and postpone their election to the November uniform election date.

### Effect of Postponement of Election

- **Candidate Filings:** By postponing their election date, the political subdivision is preserving all candidate filings and ballot order actions that have already been taken. The postponement does not have the effect of reopening candidate filings.
  - **Deadlines related to Candidate Filings, Declarations of Ineligibility, Withdrawals or Death:** The deadlines that apply to the November 3, 2020 election would apply to all candidates who are currently on the ballot for the May 2, 2020 election.

- **Ballot By Mail Requests:** All applications for a ballot by mail (ABBM) that were filed for the May 2, 2020 election that are marked annual would apply for the November 3, 2020 election. All single use ABBMs that were submitted for reasons of age or disability would still be valid for the November 3, 2020 election. If a single use ABBM was submitted and indicated the reason for voting by mail was due to absence from the county, this ABBM would not be valid as the applicable election date has changed. However, we would recommend that the political subdivision send a letter to these voters along with a new ABBM in case the circumstances surrounding their absence from the county are still valid or the voter is otherwise eligible to vote by mail.
- **Ballots by Mail:** If a political subdivision has already sent out mail ballots, those mail ballots that are returned would still be valid for the November 3, 2020 postponed election date.
- **Election Records:** All records, including candidate filings, applications to vote by mail, ballot proofs, and printed ballots shall be retained and preserved.
  - **Printed Ballots:** If your ballots have already been printed up, you may be able to reuse them for November. However, if you must change your ballot to reflect any corrections or changes that occur between now and November, you would treat the original ballots as you would in a traditional ballot correction and those ballots should be destroyed in accordance with Section 52.0064 of the Texas Election Code.
- **Requirement to use County Election Precincts in November 2020:** Per Section 42.002 of the Texas Election Code, county election precincts are required for all elections occurring in November 2020. You will need to work with your county election officer to determine whether you need to make any modifications to your ballot in light of this requirement.
- **Requirement for County Election Officer to contract with Local Political Subdivisions:** All county election officers are required to contract with local political subdivisions that postponed their May 2, 2020 election and that request a contract for election services or a joint election agreement with their county election officer pursuant to the Governor's suspension of certain Texas Election Code provisions.
- **Office Hours:** The relevant dates for maintaining office hours for election purposes will be based on the November uniform election date rather than the May election date. Under Section 31.122 of the Texas Election Code, those office hours will need to be maintained for at least three hours each day, during regular office hours, on regular business days between September 14, 2020 and December 13, 2020. However, these entities should post contact information for individuals to contact their office about election-related issues during the timeframe that those offices may be closed over the coming months.
- **Holdovers in Public Office:** Under Art. XVI, Sec. 17 of the Texas Constitution, the individuals who currently hold public offices that are scheduled to be on the ballot on the May uniform election date will continue to exercise the duties of those offices until the new officers take their oaths of office, following the November uniform election date.
- **Campaign Finance Filings:** Please contact the Texas Ethics Commission for further guidance on how these modified timelines will affect any campaign finance reporting requirements. Their office can be reached at (512) 463-5800.
- **Candidates on the ballot in both May and November:** For candidates that may be running for two offices (one normally occurring in May and one normally occurring in November), these candidates will not be removed from the ballot as they are separate elections that are normally not occurring on the same date.

## **Required Action by Governing Body to Move Election Date**

In order to utilize this move, the governing body of the political subdivisions holding the elections must **order** the postponement of their election to the November 3, 2020 uniform election date. The order for this official action should contain the following items:

1. A reference to the proclamation that authorizes the entity to postpone their election date, and the fact that the political subdivision is exercising this authority.
2. Confirmation that the candidate filings for the election will remain valid for the election held on the November date and that the filing period will not be re-opened for the November election date.
3. Confirmation that all ABBMs for voters that are voting by mail due to being over the age of 65 or due to disability will still be valid for the postponed election, and that ABBMs for voters who submitted ABBMs based on expected absence from the county would not be valid for the postponed election.
4. The major relevant dates for the November election, including the voter registration deadline (October 5, 2020), the deadline to submit an ABBM (October 23, 2020), and the dates for early voting (October 19, 2020 – October 30, 2020).

## **Necessary Revisions to Order of Election**

In addition, the entity will need to meet by August 17, 2020 to make any necessary revisions to the entity's original order of election. Those revisions may include:

1. The change to the date of the election;
2. Any change in location of the main early voting location;
3. Any changes to early voting dates and hours, including weekend early voting;
4. Any changes to the identity of the early voting clerk and their contact information; or
5. Any changes to branch early voting locations.

If you are holding a bond election, you may need to make additional revisions to your order of election for that bond election. If this is the case, we recommend reaching out to your bond counsel for additional guidance.

## **Securing Election Records**

All election records should be stored and secured during the postponement period. This may require your entity to use preservation methods that are similar to the methods you would use during the preservation period after the election has occurred. This includes:

- Storing returned ballots by mail in locked, sealed ballot boxes.
- Securely storing any unused ballots.
- Securely retaining any relevant election records, including candidate applications and ABBMs.

## **Voting System Equipment**

If you are leasing voting system equipment from the county or directly from the vendor, then you may need to contact your vendor or your county regarding any necessary modifications to those lease agreements or to modify your procedures and timelines for receiving that equipment.

## **Open Meeting Requirements**

The Governor has suspended and modified certain open meeting requirements pursuant to his disaster declaration. These changes include allowing the entity to establish procedures for telephonic or videoconferenced meetings of governmental bodies that are accessible to the public. These procedures must include a process for members of the public to participate and address the governmental body in those meetings, notice to the public on the means of participating remotely, and access to the public for recordings of those meetings. For more information, please review the applicable documentation from the Governor's Office or contact the Office of the Attorney General.

## **Update Official Websites and Notify Media**

Any entities that are exercising this authority to postpone their election date must post notice on the entity's website and should alert any local media organizations regarding this change to their election date. The entity must also provide notice to their county election officer regarding this change, as the county is required to post the entity's notice of election on the county's website no later than the 60th day before the date of the election under Election Code 4.008. If that election date will be changing due to the entity's decision to postpone the election then the entity must provide a revised notice to the county for posting on the county's website. If you have any questions regarding this advisory, please contact the Elections Division at 1-800-252- 2216.

KI:CA:CP

# The State of Texas

Elections Division  
P.O. Box 12060  
Austin, Texas 78711-2060  
www.sos.texas.gov




Phone: 512-463-5650  
Fax: 512-475-2811  
Dial 7-1-1 For Relay Services  
(800) 252-VOTE (8683)

Ruth R. Hughs  
Secretary of State

## ELECTION ADVISORY

NO. 2020-12

TO: Election Officials

FROM: Keith Ingram, Director of Elections 

DATE: March 18, 2020

RE: Actions for May 2, 2020 Uniform Election Date

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If you have any questions regarding this advisory, please contact the Elections Division at 1-800-252-2216.

KI:CA:CP

**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE  
**Governor of the State of Texas**

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TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

ATTACHMENT

A

WHEREAS, Section 41.001(a)(2) of the Texas Election Code provides that a general or special election in this state shall be held on a uniform election date, and the next uniform election date is occurring on May 2, 2020; and

B

WHEREAS, Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code provides that certain districts governed by this provision are required to hold director elections in May of each even-numbered year; and

C

WHEREAS, Section 41.0052 of the Texas Election Code prescribes a procedure for a political subdivision to change a general election date, but the time for making such a change has expired; and

D

WHEREAS, Section 31.093 of the Texas Election Code requires a county elections administrator to enter into a contract to furnish election services upon request of a political subdivision; and

E

WHEREAS, Section 42.0621(c) of the Texas Election Code does not require a political subdivision to enter into a contract with a county or hold a joint election with a county on the November uniform election date; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of Texas certified that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster and, under the authority vested in the Governor by Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code, declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor has the express authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of a state agency if strict compliance with the provisions, orders, or rules would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREG ABBOTT, Governor of Texas, under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Texas, do hereby suspend Sections 41.0052(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code and Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code to the extent necessary to allow political subdivisions that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020, to move their general and special elections for 2020 only to the next uniform election date, occurring on November 3, 2020, without otherwise adjusting the term of office. I further suspend Sections 31.093 and 42.0621(c) of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to require all county election officers, if requested by an affected political subdivision, to enter into a contract to furnish election services with any political subdivision who postponed their election to November 3, 2020, under the authority of this proclamation.

F

The authority ordering the election under Section 3.004 of the Texas Election Code is the authority authorized to make the decision to postpone its election in accordance with this proclamation.

Current office holders will hold over to the extent authorized by Article XVI, Section 17 of the Texas Constitution.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
10:20AM O'CLOCK

MAR 18 2020



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I  
have hereto signed my name and  
have officially caused the Seal of  
State to be affixed at my office in the  
City of Austin, Texas, this the 18th  
day of March, 2020.

Handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in cursive script.

GREG ABBOTT  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

Handwritten signature of Ruth R. Hughs in cursive script.

RUTH R. HUGHS  
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
10:00am O'CLOCK  
MAR 18 2020

ELECTION CODE

TITLE 4. TIME AND PLACE OF ELECTIONS

CHAPTER 41. ELECTION DATES AND HOURS FOR VOTING

SUBCHAPTER A. ELECTION DATES

Sec. 41.001. UNIFORM ELECTION DATES.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this subchapter, each general or special election in this state shall be held on one of the following dates:

(1) the first Saturday in May in an odd-numbered year;

(2) the first Saturday in May in an even-numbered year, for an election held by a political subdivision other than a county; or

(3) the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

(b) Subsection (a) does not apply to:

(1) a runoff election;

(2) an election to resolve a tie vote;

(3) an election held under an order of a court or other tribunal;

(4) an emergency election ordered under Section 41.0011;

(5) an expedited election to fill a vacancy in the legislature held under Section 203.013;

(6) an election held under a statute that expressly provides that the requirement of Subsection (a) does not apply to the election; or

(7) the initial election of the members of the governing body of a newly incorporated city.

(c) Except for an election under Subsection (a) or Section 41.0011 or a runoff election following an election held under Subsection (a)(2), an election may not be held within 30 days before or after the date of the general election for state and county officers, general primary election, or runoff primary election.

(d) Notwithstanding Section 31.093, a county elections administrator is not required to enter into a contract to furnish

(e) The office of the attorney general shall prescribe the form of the voter affidavit.

(f) The voter affidavit must require the voter to state under oath:

(1) the address of the voter and that the voter resides in the territory of the district;

(2) the date the voter changed the voter's residence to the address provided under Subdivision (1); and

(3) that the voter, to the best of the voter's knowledge, believes that the voter's registration is effective on the date of the election.

(g) The affidavit must include the following statement:

"I am not a developer of property in the district, related within the third degree of affinity or consanguinity to a developer of property in the district, or an employee of a developer of property in the district. I have not received monetary consideration from a developer of property in the district for my vote in this election."

(h) Compliance with this section or the validity of a voter affidavit may only be challenged in an election contest under Title 14, Election Code.

Added by Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 848 (H.B. 2358), Sec. 1, eff. January 1, 2018.

Sec. 49.103. TERMS OF OFFICE OF DIRECTORS. (a) Except as provided by Section 49.102, the members of the board of a district shall serve staggered four-year terms.

(b) Unless a district holds its general election for officers on a date as otherwise provided by statute, after confirmation of a district, an election shall be held on the uniform election date, provided by Section 41.001, Election Code, in May of each even-numbered year to elect the appropriate number of directors.

(c) The permanent directors may assign a position number to each director's office, in which case directors shall thereafter be elected by position and not at large.

(d) A district may provide for the election of all directors, or a majority of directors, from single-member

(b) Repealed by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 1235, Sec. 26(4), eff. September 1, 2009.

Added by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 389, Sec. 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1991.

Amended by:

Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 1235 (S.B. 1970), Sec. 26(4), eff. September 1, 2009.

Sec. 41.005. GENERAL ELECTION OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OTHER THAN COUNTY. (a) This section does not apply to a general election for county officers.

(b) If a law outside this code requires the general election for officers of a political subdivision to be held on a date other than a uniform election date, the governing body of the political subdivision shall set the election date to comply with this subchapter.

(c) A governing body changing an election date under this section shall adjust the terms of office to conform to the new election date.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 211, Sec. 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986. Amended by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 389, Sec. 3, eff. Sept. 1, 1991.

Sec. 41.0052. CHANGING GENERAL ELECTION DATE. (a) The governing body of a political subdivision, other than a county or municipal utility district, that holds its general election for officers on a date other than the November uniform election date may, not later than December 31, 2016, change the date on which it holds its general election for officers to the November uniform election date.

(b) A governing body changing an election date under this section shall adjust the terms of office to conform to the new election date.

(c) A home-rule city may implement the change authorized by Subsection (a) or provide for the election of all members of the governing body at the same election through the adoption of a resolution. The change contained in the resolution supersedes a city charter provision that requires a different general election date or that requires the terms of members of the governing body to

subdivision in relation to an election that may be transferred under this subchapter if the political subdivision receives a petition requesting the contract signed by a number of registered voters residing in the political subdivision that is equal to or exceeds one percent of all votes cast in the most recent general election held by the political subdivision.

(c) A petition under this section must be submitted to the clerk of the political subdivision before January 1 of the year in which the election to be administered under the requested election services contract will be held.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 802 (S.B. 1402), Sec. 1, eff. June 19, 2009.

Sec. 31.093. DUTY TO CONTRACT. (a) If requested to do so by a political subdivision, the county elections administrator shall enter into a contract to furnish the election services requested, in accordance with a cost schedule agreed on by the contracting parties.

(b) A county elections administrator may but is not required to enter into a contract to conduct a training program for election judges and clerks.

(c) On request of the county chair of a political party holding a primary election in the county, the county election officer shall contract with the county executive committee of the party to perform election services, as provided by this subchapter, in the party's general primary election and runoff primary election in accordance with a cost schedule agreed on by the contracting parties.

(d) In a contract required by Subsection (c), the county election officer may not prevent the county chair or the chair's designee from supervising the conduct of the primary election, including the tabulation of results, as required by Chapter 172. A county election officer who violates this subsection commits an offense. An offense under this subsection is a Class B misdemeanor.

(e) A county election officer must offer to contract on the same terms with the county executive committee of each political party holding a primary election in the county.

adopted boundary change in a format that is compatible with the mapping format used by the registrar's office.

Added by Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 709 (S.B. 427), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2005.

Sec. 42.062. PRECINCTS FOR CERTAIN SPECIAL ELECTIONS. A county authority ordering an election shall establish the election precincts for the election if:

(1) the election is a special election affecting only part of the county; or

(2) the election relates to the creation, organization, functioning, or existence of one or more political subdivisions other than the county.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 211, Sec. 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986.

Sec. 42.0621. PRECINCTS FOR ELECTIONS HELD ON NOVEMBER UNIFORM ELECTION DATE. (a) In an election held on the November uniform election date, the political subdivisions to which Section 42.002(a)(5) applies shall use the regular county election precincts.

(b) If an election precinct is not located wholly within the territory of a political subdivision holding an election in the precinct or a district used to elect an office at the election, election officials shall take reasonable measures to ensure that a voter voting at that precinct may not vote in an election in which the voter is not entitled to vote.

(c) This section does not require a political subdivision to contract with a county under Section 31.092 or hold a joint election with a county under Chapter 271.

(d) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures to implement this section.

Added by Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1042 (H.B. 1209), Sec. 2, eff. September 1, 2005.

Amended by:

Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 711 (H.B. 2847), Sec. 2, eff. September 1, 2009.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1085 (H.B. 1333), Sec. 1, eff.



ELECTION CODE

TITLE 1. INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 3. ORDERING ELECTION

Sec. 3.001. ORDER REQUIRED. Each general and special election shall be ordered as provided by this chapter.  
Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 211, Sec. 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986.

Sec. 3.002. CONFLICTS WITH OTHER LAW. A law outside this chapter supersedes this chapter to the extent of any conflict.  
Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 211, Sec. 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986.

Sec. 3.003. ELECTION ORDERED BY GOVERNOR. (a) The governor shall order:

(1) each general election for officers of the state government, members of the United States Congress, and electors for president and vice-president of the United States;

(2) each election on a proposed constitutional amendment; and

(3) each special election to fill a vacancy in the legislature or in congress.

(b) The order shall be made by proclamation.

(c) Not later than the 36th day before election day, a copy of the proclamation ordering an election shall be mailed to the county judge of each county wholly or partly in the territory covered by the election.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 211, Sec. 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986.

Sec. 3.004. ELECTION OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION. (a) The following authority shall order an election:

(1) the county judge, for the general election for officers of the county government;

(2) the mayor, for the general election for city officers in a city with a population of 1.9 million or more; and

(3) the governing body of a political subdivision, other than a county or a city described by Subdivision (2), that has elective offices, for the general election for those officers.

CORONAVIRUS IN TEXAS

# Texas delaying May primary runoff elections in response to coronavirus

Gov. Greg Abbott on Friday postponed the May 26 runoff election to July under the emergency powers of his previous statewide disaster declaration.

BY ALEXA URA MARCH 20, 2020 15 HOURS AGO



The runoffs for Texas' March 3 primary election have been pushed from May 26 to July 14. Jordan Vonderhaar for the Texas Tribune

## Coronavirus in Texas

*The latest updates on coronavirus in Texas: At least five Texans' deaths have been linked to COVID-19 as the state experiences a public health disaster. Community spread has been discovered, more than 210 cases have been disclosed and the number of positive tests is expected to increase exponentially. A patchwork of school cancellations, calls for social distancing and business closures are disrupting the economy and Texans' daily lives. If you're looking for information on coronavirus testing, here's what you need to know. [MORE IN THIS SERIES](#) →*

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growing outbreak of the new coronavirus in Texas under an order signed Friday by Gov. Greg Abbott.

Abbott signed the postponement under the emergency powers of his previous statewide disaster declaration. Dozens of runoffs are ongoing for party nominations to congressional and local offices. The most prominent is the contest between former Air Force helicopter pilot MJ Hegar and state Sen. Royce West of Dallas for the Democratic nomination to take on Republican U.S. Sen. John Cornyn.

The elections are now scheduled for July 14; early voting will begin July 6.

The fate of the elections has been in doubt for days as Republicans and Democrats argued over whether to postpone them — as the GOP preferred — or hold them as scheduled but allow for universal voting by mail, as the Democrats want.

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Asked earlier in the week if he was considering expanding mail-in balloting, Abbott responded, "Everything's on the table."

Abbott acknowledged the disagreement during a virtual town hall Thursday night and said talks were ongoing. But the negotiations ultimately proved fruitless for Democrats, who had called for a massive expansion of voting by mail in the state so that the primary runoff could be conducted as an all-mail election.

Voting by mail is fairly limited in the state. To be eligible under typical circumstances, a voter has to be 65 years or older, have a disability or illness, be out of the county during the election period, or be confined in jail.

The chairman of the state GOP said Thursday night that his party was not on board with an expansion of voting by mail.

County election officials across the state were already facing significant hurdles to pull off a traditional election if the current circumstances — including limits on public gatherings and the ongoing closures of locations that typically serve as

care facilities, home to Texans among the most susceptible to the virus. Other officials said they had heard from schools, sometimes the only viable voting sites in a precinct, that wanted to pull out from serving as polling locations given the coronavirus outbreak.

Election administrators were also bracing for a depleted workforce as health officials extort older people and those with underlying medical conditions to self-isolate because they are considered high risk. The average age of poll workers in some parts of the state hovers in the late 60s.

Before Abbott's announcement, Texas Democrats instead turned to the state courts Friday to push for expanding mail-in voting.

In a lawsuit filed in Travis County district court, the Democrats asked a judge to declare that the portion of the Texas election code that allows voters to qualify for a mail-in ballot if they have a "sickness or physical condition" that prevents them from appearing in person without the likelihood of "injuring the voter's health" currently applies to to any voter in Texas if the voter believes "they should practice social distancing in order to hinder" the spread of the new coronavirus.

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The governor issued a proclamation earlier this week to allow municipalities to delay local elections scheduled for May 2 until November. Notably, individual municipalities will still have to act to postpone their elections, suggesting Abbott concluded he did not have that power to order those postponements himself.

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