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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the election of the governing body of certain  
3 municipalities.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 26, Local Government  
Code,

6 is amended by adding Section 26.048 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 26.048. CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES WITH POPULATION OF  
8 500,000 OR MORE: ELECTION FROM SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS. (a) The  
9 governing body of a municipality with a population of 500,000 or  
10 more must consist of a mayor elected at large and at least six  
11 members elected from single-member districts. A member must  
12 reside  
13 in the district the member represents.

14 (b) The municipality may provide for the staggering of  
15 the  
16 terms of the members of the municipality's governing body.

17 (c) A single-member district must be compact and consist  
18 of  
19 contiguous territory. To the extent practicable, all single-  
20 member  
21 districts must be of equal population.

22 (d) This section does not prevent a municipality from  
23 having  
24 additional members elected to the governing body from the  
25 municipality at-large.

26 (e) A municipality must comply with this section  
27 beginning  
28 with the first general election of members to the municipality's

23 governing body that occurs after the year in which the federal  
24 decennial census indicates that the municipality meets the

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1 population requirements of Subsection (a).

2           SECTION 2. A municipality to which Section 26.048, Local  
3 Government Code, as added by this Act, applies on the effective  
date  
4 of this Act must comply with the requirements of that section  
5 beginning with the first general election of members to the  
6 municipality's governing body that occurs after December 31,  
2009.

7           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it  
receives  
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house,  
as  
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If  
this  
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect,  
this  
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.