

By: Geren

H.B. No. 3171

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the procedure for collecting signatures on a petition filed in connection with a candidate's application for a place on the ballot.

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

SECTION 1. Section 141.064, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 141.064. METHOD OF ACQUIRING SIGNATURE. A person circulating a petition must:

(1) ~~[before permitting a person to sign, point out and read to the person each statement pertaining to the signer that appears on the petition,~~

~~[(2)]~~ witness each signature;

(2) ~~[(3)]~~ ascertain that each date of signing is correct; and

(3) ~~[(4)]~~ before the petition is filed, verify each signer's registration status and ascertain that each registration number entered on the petition is correct.

SECTION 2. Section 141.065(a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Each part of a petition must include an affidavit of the person who circulated it stating that the person:

(1) ~~[pointed out and read to each signer, before the petition was signed, each statement pertaining to the signer that~~

1 ~~appears on the petition;~~

2 [~~(2)~~] witnessed each signature;

3 (2) [~~(3)~~] verified each signer's registration status;

4 and

5 (3) [~~(4)~~] believes each signature to be genuine and the
6 corresponding information to be correct.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005, and
8 applies only to a petition filed on or after that date.