

By: Strama

H.B. No. 2280

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to eligibility of voters to sign ballot access petitions.

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

SECTION 1. Section 172.026, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 172.026. RESTRICTION ON PETITION SIGNER. (a) On signing a petition to be filed under Section 172.021, the signer becomes ineligible to vote in a primary election or participate in a convention of another political party during the voting year in which the primary election is held.

(b) This section does not prohibit the signer of a petition to be filed under Section 172.021 from signing a petition under Section 181.006 or 182.004 during the same voting year.

SECTION 2. Sections 181.006(f), (i), and (j), Election Code, are amended to read as follows:

(f) The following statement must appear at the top of each page of the petition: "I know that the purpose of this petition is to entitle the _____ (name of political party) Party to have its nominees placed on the ballot in the _____ (year of general election) general election for state and county officers. ~~[I have not voted in a primary election or participated in a convention of another party during this voting year, and I understand that I become ineligible to do so by signing this petition. I understand that signing more than one petition to entitle a party to have its~~

1 ~~nominees placed on the general election ballot in the same election~~
2 ~~is prohibited.]~~" Listing the name of more than one political party
3 in the blank on the top of a page of the petition invalidates the
4 signatures on that page.

5 (i) Signing a [~~On signing the~~] petition is not considered an
6 act of affiliation with the party circulating[~~, the person becomes~~
7 ~~ineligible to affiliate with another party during the voting year~~
8 ~~in which~~] the petition [~~is signed~~].

9 (j) The petition may not be circulated before the voting
10 year of the election for which the party seeks to qualify to have
11 its nominees placed on the ballot [~~until after the date of the~~
12 ~~party's precinct conventions held under this chapter~~]. A signature
13 obtained [~~on or~~] before that voting year [~~date~~] is invalid.

14 SECTION 3. Section 182.004(f), Election Code, is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (f) Sections 181.006(f), (i), and (j) [~~181.006(f)-(j)~~]
17 apply to a petition circulated under this section.

18 SECTION 4. Sections 181.006(g) and (h), Election Code, are
19 repealed.

20 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.