

By: Harris

S.B. No. 1705

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the requirements of a candidate for certain judicial
3 offices to be placed on the ballot.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subsection (g), Section 172.021, Election Code,
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 (g) A candidate for the office of chief justice or justice,
8 supreme court, or presiding judge or judge, court of criminal
9 appeals, who chooses to pay the filing fee must also accompany the
10 application with a petition that complies with the requirements
11 prescribed for a petition authorized by Subsection (b), except that
12 the minimum number of signatures that must appear on the petition
13 required by this subsection is 50 from each court of appeals
14 district. This requirement does not apply to a chief justice or
15 justice, supreme court, or presiding judge or judge, court of
16 criminal appeals, who is seeking reelection to the same position
17 that the judicial officeholder currently holds.

18 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.