

By: Eiland

H.B. No. 1037

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the placement on the ballot of the opportunity to cast a  
3 straight-party vote.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 52.071(a), Election Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (a) On a ballot on which a party column appears, each  
8 political party's name should also be listed at the bottom of each  
9 party column following all offices on the ballot and a square larger  
10 than the square prescribed by Section 52.070(a) shall be printed to  
11 the left of each political party's name appearing at the bottom of  
12 the party column.

13 SECTION 2. Section 124.001, Election Code, is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 Sec. 124.001. STRAIGHT-PARTY ARRANGEMENT. In an election  
16 in which voters are entitled to cast straight-party votes, the  
17 voting system ballot shall be arranged to permit the voters to do  
18 so. The opportunity to cast a straight-party vote must be arranged  
19 to follow all offices on the ballot in that election.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
24 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.