

By: Flynn, Shaheen

H.B. No. 1380

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1380:

By: Fallon

C.S.H.B. No. 1380

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to ballot language for certain propositions to approve
3 actions by a county, city, school district, or other special
4 district.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 52.072, Election Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsection (e) and adding Subsection (f) to read as
8 follows:

9 (e) In addition to any other requirement imposed by law for
10 a proposition, including a provision prescribing the proposition
11 language, a proposition submitted to the voters for approval of the
12 issuance of bonds or the imposition, increase, or reduction of a tax
13 shall specifically state, as applicable:

14 (1) with respect to a proposition seeking voter
15 approval of the issuance of bonds:

16 (A) the total principal amount of the bonds to be
17 authorized, if approved; ~~and~~

18 (B) a general description of the purposes for
19 which the bonds are to be authorized, if approved; and

20 (C) if the issuer is a political subdivision,
21 including a county, city, school district, or other special
22 district:

23 (i) the total amount of the political
24 subdivision's outstanding debt on the first day of the fiscal year

1 in which the election is held;

2 (ii) the total amount of the political
3 subdivision's debt payments on the first day of the fiscal year in
4 which the election is held;

5 (iii) the total amount of the political
6 subdivision's debt obligations on the first day of the fiscal year
7 in which the election is held, stated as a per capita amount for the
8 political subdivision's population; and

9 (iv) the estimated tax rate if the bonds are
10 authorized, stated as a per capita amount for the political
11 subdivision's population;

12 (2) with respect to a proposition that only seeks
13 voter approval of the imposition or increase of a tax:

14 (A) [7] the amount of or maximum tax rate of the
15 tax or tax increase for which approval is sought; and

16 (B) if the authority holding the election is a
17 political subdivision, including a county, city, school district,
18 or other special district:

19 (i) the tax rate increase if the imposition
20 or increase is approved, stated as a per capita amount for the
21 political subdivision's population; and

22 (ii) a detailed description of the purposes
23 for which the tax is to be imposed or increased, if approved; or

24 (3) with respect to a proposition that only seeks
25 voter approval of the reduction of a tax:

26 (A) [7] the amount of tax rate reduction or the
27 tax rate for which approval is sought; and

1 (B) if the authority holding the election is a
2 political subdivision, including a county, city, school district,
3 or other special district, the estimated tax rate reduction, stated
4 as a per capita amount for the political subdivision's population.

5 (f) A proposition to which Subsection (e) applies may not
6 exceed:

7 (1) 5,000 characters; or

8 (2) a different limit prescribed by the secretary of
9 state that ensures that the length of the proposition does not
10 exceed one page of the ballot or one screen on an electronic voting
11 machine.

12 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
13 to an election ordered on or after the effective date of this Act.
14 An election ordered before the effective date of this Act is
15 governed by the law in effect when the election was ordered.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.