1-1 By: Paul, Miller of Fort Bend

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(Senate Sponsor - Estes)
(In the Senate - Received from the House May 18, 2015;
May 18, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on State
Affairs; May 22, 2015, reported favorably by the following vote:
Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 22, 2015, sent to printer.) 1-2 1-3 1-4 1-5 1-6

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-8		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Huffman	X	-		
1-10	Ellis	Х			
1-11	Birdwell	X			
1-12	Creighton	X			
1-13	Estes	Х			
1-14	Fraser	Χ			
1-15	Nelson	Х			
1-16	Schwertner	X			
1-17	Zaffirini	X			

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

1-20 relating to the composition of a district executive committee of a 1-21 political party.

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

SECTION 1. Section 171.054, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 171.054. COMMITTEE COMPOSITION: DISTRICT SITUATED IN MORE THAN ONE COUNTY; FIRST MEETING. (a) The district executive committee for a district situated in more than one county consists of the members of each county executive committee who reside in the district [+

[(1) the county chair of each county that is wholly situated in the district; and

[(2) one precinct chair from each county that is only situated in the district, elected by and from among the precinct chairs of the precincts in that part of the county].

- (b) <u>The [Except as provided by Subsection (c), the] state [county</u>] chair shall call a meeting <u>of the district executive</u> committee to convene either as a whole in one location or separately in each county in the district at any time after the precinct chairs take office to fill a vacancy in a nomination or to transact any other business by the committee [elect the precinct chair who is to serve on a district executive committee]. The state [county] chair shall notify the members of the district executive committee [appropriate precinct chairs] in advance of the [meeting of its] time, place, and purpose of any meeting or meetings. [Not later than the third day after the date the district executive committee member is elected, the county chair shall deliver to the state chair written notice of the name and address of the person elected.
- (c) If a vacancy exists in the office of <u>senatorial district</u> [precinct] chair for a county [on a senatorial district executive committee] immediately before the date for conducting the regular drawing for a place on the general primary ballot, the appropriate county executive committee members [precinct chairs] shall convene on that date at the hour and place specified by the county chair to elect that officer.
- (d) If the district executive committee is meeting as a whole in one location, the  $[ \frac{\text{The}}{\text{executive}} ]$  committee shall elect a chair at the committee's first meeting from among the committee membership. If the district executive committee is meeting separately in each county, the members meeting in each county shall elect a chair at the committee's first meeting from among the committee membership in

2-1 that county. (e)

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2**-**20 2**-**21 (e) For the purposes of filling a vacancy in a nomination, the [The] state chair shall canvass the votes of the district executive committee when meeting separately in each county and make the certification required by Section 145.037 [call the first meeting of the district executive committee and shall notify each committee member in advance of the meeting of its time, place, and purpose].

(f) The state executive committee shall by rule determine the quorum requirements for a district executive committee to

conduct business.

g) The state executive committee may by rule require a specific deadline for filling vacancies on a district executive committee prior to that committee filling a vacancy in nomination for public office, but may not set the deadline for a date later than the date that the vacancy in nomination for public office must be filled. A rule adopted under this subsection may also include a requirement that a county executive committee publicly post on the committee's website the names and addresses of district executive committee members as of the deadline specified in the rule

committee members as of the deadline specified in the rule.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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