

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 25  
By: Simmons  
Elections  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Interested parties contend that straight-party voting pulls a voter's attention away from down-ballot candidates for certain offices that most directly affect the voter and that this practice discourages a voter from researching all the candidates on the ballot. H.B. 25 seeks to address this issue by eliminating straight-party voting for candidates in Texas.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 25 amends the Election Code to eliminate straight-party voting.

H.B. 25 repeals the following provisions of the Election Code:

- Section 1.005(20)
- Section 52.071
- Section 64.004
- Section 65.007
- Section 122.001(b)
- Section 124.001
- Section 124.003(d)
- Section 124.063(d)
- Section 232.050(d)

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2017.