

By: Davis of Harris

H.B. No. 777

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to required disclosures on certain mailed political advertising; providing a civil penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 255, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 255.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 255.009. REQUIRED DISCLOSURE ON SLATE MAILER. (a) In this section, "slate mailer" means a mass mailing that supports or opposes four or more candidates.

(b) This section does not apply to a slate mailer produced by a general-purpose committee.

(c) In addition to the disclosure statement required by Section 255.001 or 255.008, as applicable, the first page of a slate mailer must indicate the full name and address of each person with final decision-making authority as to which candidates are supported or opposed in the slate mailer.

(d) A person may not knowingly cause to be published or distributed a slate mailer that does not include the disclosure required by Subsection (c).

(e) A person who violates this section is liable to this state for a civil penalty in an amount determined by the commission not to exceed \$4,000.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.