

By: Phelan

H.B. No. 3909

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to ballot language requirements for a proposition seeking voter approval for the issuance of bonds.

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

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

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

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

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

(B) a plain language ~~general~~ description of the single specific purpose ~~the purposes~~ for which the bonds are to be authorized, if approved; and

(C) the rate of any tax that will be increased or imposed to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds;

(2) with respect to a proposition that only seeks voter approval of the imposition or increase of a tax, the amount of or maximum tax rate of the tax or tax increase for which approval is

1 sought; or

2 (3) with respect to a proposition that only seeks
3 voter approval of the reduction of a tax, the amount of tax rate
4 reduction or the tax rate for which approval is sought.

5 (f) Each single specific purpose for which bonds requiring
6 voter approval are to be issued must be printed on the ballot as a
7 separate proposition.

8 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
9 to an election ordered on or after the effective date of this Act.
10 An election ordered before the effective date of this Act is
11 governed by the law in effect when the election was ordered, and the
12 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.