By:  Manuel, Smith, Swanson, Bucy, H.B. No. 3537

     Morales of Maverick

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a candidate's application for a place on the ballot for a party's primary election.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter B, Chapter 172, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 172.0211 to read as follows:

Sec. 172.0211.  CANDIDACY PROHIBITED. (a) A candidate shall be prohibited from making an application for a place on the general primary election ballot with more than one political party in the same voting year.

(b)  If a candidate violates this section, any authority receiving an application from the candidate shall reject the application.

(c)  A candidate whose application is rejected under this section is not entitled to receive a refund of the filing fees for the rejected application.

(d)  A candidate whose application is rejected under this section is ineligible for a place on the ballot for the succeeding general election for state and county officers as:

(1)  an independent candidate for an office for which a candidate filed for a place on the ballot for the primary;

(2)  the nominee of a political party other than the party holding the primary in which the candidate filed an application for a place on the ballot; or

(3)  a write-in candidate for an office for which the candidate filed for a place on the ballot for the primary.

(e)  The secretary of state shall prescribe any procedures necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.