



SENATE MOTION

MR. PRESIDENT:

I move that Engrossed House Bill 1377 be amended to read as follows:

- 1 Page 1, delete lines 1 through 17, begin a new paragraph and insert:
2 "SECTION 1. IC 3-6-4.2-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,
3 SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) Each year in which a general or municipal
5 election is held, the election division shall call a meeting of all the
6 members of the county election boards, the boards of registration
7 (subject to IC 3-7-12), and the boards of elections and registration (as
8 defined in IC 3-5-2.1-12) to instruct them regarding all of the
9 following:
10 (1) Their duties under this title and federal law (including HAVA
11 and NVRA).
12 (2) Requirements and best practices concerning cybersecurity for
13 the computerized list, voting systems, and electronic poll books.
14 (3) Physical security for all aspects of the election process,
15 including voting systems, electronic poll books, absentee voting,
16 and polling places.
17 (4) Requirements and best practices to ensure that voting systems,
18 precinct polling places, and vote centers are accessible to voters
19 with disabilities.
20 (5) Best practices in answering voters' questions on how to vote.
21 ~~including providing instructions to voters on straight ticket voting.~~
22 (b) The election division may call a meeting under this section:
23 (1) during a year in which a general or a municipal election is not
24 held; and
25 (2) at other times when the election division determines that doing
26 so is necessary or desirable.
27 (c) Each circuit court clerk, each member of a board of registration

1 established under IC 3-7-12, and each director, assistant director, or
 2 co-director of a board of elections and registration shall attend a
 3 meeting called by the election division under this section. A member
 4 of a county election board may attend a meeting called by the election
 5 division under this section. A circuit court clerk, member of a board of
 6 registration, or member of a board of elections and registration may
 7 require the attendance of the following:

8 (1) Each of the circuit court clerk's, board of registration
 9 member's, or board of elections and registration member's
 10 appointed and acting chief deputies or chief assistants with
 11 election related responsibilities.

12 (2) If the number of deputies or assistants:

13 (A) is not more than three (3), one (1) of the clerk's or
 14 member's appointed and acting deputies or assistants; or

15 (B) is greater than three (3), two (2) of the clerk's or member's
 16 appointed and acting deputies or assistants.

17 (d) The election division shall set the time and place of the
 18 instructional meeting. In years in which a primary election is held, the
 19 election division:

20 (1) may conduct the meeting before the first day of the year; and

21 (2) shall conduct the meeting before primary election day.

22 The instructional meeting may not last for more than three (3) days.

23 (e) Each individual who attends the meeting under subsection (c)
 24 and an individual who has been elected or selected to serve as circuit
 25 court clerk but has not yet begun serving in that office is entitled to
 26 receive all of the following from the county general fund without
 27 appropriation:

28 (1) A sum for mileage at a rate determined by the fiscal body of
 29 the unit the official represents for each mile necessarily traveled
 30 in going to and returning from the meeting by the most
 31 expeditious route. Regardless of the duration of the conference,
 32 only one (1) mileage reimbursement shall be allowed to the
 33 official furnishing the conveyance even if the official transports
 34 more than one (1) person.

35 (2) An allowance for lodging for each night preceding conference
 36 attendance in an amount equal to the single room rate. However,
 37 lodging expense, in the case of a one (1) day conference, shall
 38 only be allowed for persons who reside fifty (50) miles or farther
 39 from the conference location.

40 (3) Reimbursement of an official, a deputy, or an assistant in an
 41 amount determined by the fiscal body of the unit the official,
 42 deputy, or assistant represents, for meals purchased while
 43 attending a conference called under this section.

44 (f) The election division shall certify the number of days of
 45 attendance and the mileage for each conference to each official, deputy,
 46 or assistant attending any conference under this section.

1 (g) All payments of mileage and lodging shall be made by the
 2 proper disbursing officer in the manner provided by law on a duly
 3 verified claim or voucher to which shall be attached the certificate of
 4 the election division showing the number of days attended and the
 5 number of miles traveled. All payments shall be made from the county
 6 general fund from any money not otherwise appropriated and without
 7 any previous appropriation being made therefore.

8 (h) A claim for reimbursement under this section may not be denied
 9 by the body responsible for the approval of claims if the claim complies
 10 with IC 5-11-10-1.6 and this section.

11 SECTION 2. IC 3-10-7-32, AS AMENDED BY P.L.190-2011,
 12 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 13 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 32. (a) A town election board shall determine
 14 what voting method will be used in a municipal election.

15 (b) The town election board and its precinct election officers shall
 16 perform the duties of the county election board and its precinct election
 17 officers under IC 3-11 for each voting method used.

18 (c) The town election board shall prepare the ballots in the form
 19 prescribed by IC 3-11 and distribute them to the precincts in the town.

20 (d) This subsection applies only to paper ballots. Notwithstanding
 21 subsection (c), the town election board, by unanimous consent of the
 22 board's entire membership, may authorize the printing or reproduction
 23 of ballots on equipment under the control of the town clerk-treasurer.
 24 If the town election board acts under this subsection, the ballots are not
 25 required to conform to the precise dimensions concerning the size of
 26 political party devices under IC 3-11-2-9 or the placement of a
 27 candidate's name under ~~IC 3-11-2-10(f)~~. **IC 3-11-2-10(d)**. However,
 28 the ballots must otherwise substantially conform with IC 3-11-2.

29 SECTION 3. IC 3-11-2-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.195-2025,
 30 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The device of each political party described
 32 in section 6 of this chapter shall be:

33 (1) enclosed in a circle not less than three-fourths (3/4) of an inch
 34 in diameter; and

35 (2) placed under the name of the party or independent ticket, as
 36 required by section 10 of this chapter.

37 (b) A device of a political party must not be printed on a ballot if

38 ~~(1) there are no candidates of that political party. or~~

39 ~~(2) the only candidates:~~

40 ~~(A) of the political party; or~~

41 ~~(B) that have stated an affiliation with the political party under~~

42 ~~IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5);~~

43 ~~are for election to school board offices or offices to which more~~
 44 ~~than one (1) individual is to be elected and which will not be~~
 45 ~~credited with a vote under IC 3-12-1-7 or IC 3-12-1-7.1 if a voter~~
 46 ~~casts a straight party ticket.~~

1 SECTION 4. IC 3-11-2-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.195-2025,
 2 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) Public questions shall be placed on the
 4 general election ballot in the following order after the statement
 5 described in section 7 of this chapter, and the instructions described in
 6 ~~subsections (d) and (e)~~ **subsection (c)** and section 8 of this chapter, if
 7 instructions are printed on the ballot:

- 8 (1) Ratification of a state constitutional amendment.
 9 (2) Local public questions.

10 Subject to section 10.1 of this chapter, each public question shall be
 11 placed in a separate column on the ballot.

12 (b) The name or title of the political party shall be placed on the
 13 general election ballot after the public questions described in
 14 subsection (a). The device of the political party shall be placed
 15 immediately under the name of the political party. ~~Notwithstanding~~
 16 ~~section 8(b) of this chapter, the instructions for voting a straight party~~
 17 ~~ticket shall be placed to the right of the device on the ballot.~~

18 (c) ~~The instructions for voting a straight party ticket must conform~~
 19 ~~as nearly as possible to the following:~~

20 "(1) You are not required to vote a straight party ticket. If you do
 21 not wish to vote a straight party ticket, do not make a mark in this
 22 section, and proceed to voting the ballot by office.

23 (2) To vote a straight (insert political party name) ticket for all
 24 (insert political party name) candidates on this ballot, except for
 25 candidates described in (3) below, make a voting mark on or in
 26 this circle and do not make any other marks on this ballot.

27 (3) To vote for any candidate for:

- 28 (A) an at-large office (insert county council; city common
 29 council; town council; or township board if those offices
 30 appear on this ballot) to which more than one (1) person may
 31 be elected; or

32 (B) a school board office;

33 you must make another voting mark for each candidate you wish
 34 to vote for. Your straight party vote will not count as a vote for
 35 any candidate for that office.

36 (4) If you wish to vote for a candidate seeking a nonpartisan office
 37 or on a public question, you must make another voting mark on
 38 the appropriate place on this ballot."

39 (d) ~~Except as permitted under section 8(b) of this chapter, if the~~
 40 ~~ballot contains an independent ticket described in section 6 of this~~
 41 ~~chapter and at least one (1) other independent candidate, the ballot~~
 42 ~~must also contain a statement that reads substantially as follows: "A~~
 43 ~~vote cast for an independent ticket will only be counted for the~~
 44 ~~candidates for President and Vice President or governor and lieutenant~~
 45 ~~governor comprising that independent ticket. This vote will NOT be~~
 46 ~~counted for any OTHER independent candidate appearing on the~~

1 ballot."

2 (e) (c) Except as permitted under section 8(b) of this chapter, the

3 ballot must also contain a statement that reads substantially as follows:

4 "A write-in vote will NOT be counted unless the vote is for a

5 DECLARED write-in candidate. To vote for a write-in candidate, you

6 must make a voting mark on or in the square to the left of the name you

7 have written in or your vote will not be counted."

8 (f) (d) ~~Subject to section 10.1 of this chapter, the list of candidates~~

9 ~~of the political party shall be placed immediately under the instructions~~

10 ~~for voting a straight party ticket.~~ The names of the candidates shall be

11 placed three-fourths (3/4) of an inch apart from center to center of the

12 name. The name of each candidate must have, immediately on its left,

13 a square three-eighths (3/8) of an inch on each side.

14 (g) (e) The circuit court clerk may authorize the printing of ballots

15 containing a ballot variation code to ensure that the proper version of

16 a ballot is used within a precinct.

17 SECTION 5. IC 3-11-2-12.4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.109-2021,

18 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12.4. (a) This section applies whenever more than

20 one (1) candidate may be elected to an office.

21 (b) The office shall be placed on the general election ballot after the

22 offices described in section 12 of this chapter and before the offices

23 described in section 12.9 of this chapter.

24 (c) Whenever candidates are to be elected to a county council, city

25 common council, or town council that includes both an at-large

26 member and a member representing a district, the candidates seeking

27 election as an at-large member shall be placed on the ballot before

28 candidates seeking to represent a district.

29 (d) The ballot shall contain a statement reading substantially as

30 follows above the name of the first candidate: "To vote for any

31 candidate for this office, you must make a voting mark for each

32 candidate you wish to vote for." ~~A straight party vote will not count as~~

33 ~~a vote for any candidate for this office."~~.

34 Delete page 2.

35 Page 3, delete lines 1 through 39.

36 Page 4, line 2, reset in roman "12.4".

37 Page 4, line 2, delete "12".

38 Page 4, delete lines 3 through 14, begin a new paragraph and insert:

39 "(b) If the ballot contains a candidate for a school board office, the

40 ballot must also contain a statement that reads substantially as follows:

41 "To vote for a candidate for this office, make a voting mark on or in the

42 square to the left of the candidate's name." ~~A straight party vote will~~

43 ~~not count as a vote for any candidate for this office."~~.

44 Page 4, delete lines 19 through 42, begin a new paragraph and

45 insert:

46 "SECTION 7. IC 3-11-7-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.195-2025,

1 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
2 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b); A
3 ballot card voting system must permit a voter to vote

4 ~~(1) except at a primary election; a straight party ticket for all of~~
5 ~~the candidates of one (1) political party by a single voting mark~~
6 ~~on each ballot card;~~

7 ~~(2) for one (1) or more candidates of each political party or~~
8 ~~independent candidates, or for one (1) or more school board~~
9 ~~candidates nominated by petition.~~

10 ~~(3) a split ticket for the candidates of different political parties~~
11 ~~and for independent candidates; or~~

12 ~~(4) a straight party ticket and then split that ticket by casting~~
13 ~~individual votes for candidates of another political party or~~
14 ~~independent candidate.~~

15 (b) A ballot card voting system must require that a voter who wishes
16 to cast a ballot for a candidate for election to a school board office or
17 an at-large district to which more than one (1) person may be elected;
18 on a:

19 ~~(1) county council;~~

20 ~~(2) city common council;~~

21 ~~(3) town council; or~~

22 ~~(4) township board;~~

23 make a voting mark for each individual candidate for whom the voter
24 wishes to cast a vote. The ballot card voting system may not count any
25 straight party ticket voting mark as a vote for any candidate for an
26 office described by this subsection.

27 (c) ~~(b)~~ A ballot card voting system must permit a voter to vote:

28 (1) for all candidates for presidential electors and alternate
29 presidential electors of a political party or an independent ticket
30 by making a single voting mark; and

31 (2) for or against a public question on which the voter may vote.

32 SECTION 8. IC 3-11-7-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
33 2026]. Sec. 6. Subject to IC 3-12-1-7.1; a ballot card voting system
34 must count a ballot in accordance with IC 3-12-1-7 when a voter votes
35 a straight ticket vote and votes for individual candidates as described
36 by IC 3-12-1-7.

37 SECTION 9. IC 3-11-7.5-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.195-2025,
38 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b); An
40 electronic voting system must permit a voter to vote

41 ~~(1) except at a primary election; a straight party ticket for all the~~
42 ~~candidates of one (1) political party by touching the device of that~~
43 ~~party;~~

44 ~~(2) for one (1) or more candidates of each political party or~~
45 ~~independent candidates, or for one (1) or more school board~~
46 ~~candidates nominated by petition.~~

- 1 (3) a split ticket for the candidates of different political parties
 2 and for independent candidates; or
 3 (4) a straight party ticket and then split that ticket by casting
 4 individual votes for candidates of another political party or
 5 independent candidates.
- 6 (b) An electronic voting system must require that a voter who
 7 wishes to cast a ballot for a candidate for election to a school board
 8 office or an at-large district to which more than one (1) person may be
 9 elected, on a:
- 10 (1) county council;
 11 (2) city common council;
 12 (3) town council; or
 13 (4) township board;
- 14 make a voting mark for each individual candidate for whom the voter
 15 wishes to cast a vote. The electronic voting system may not count any
 16 straight party ticket voting mark as a vote for any candidate for an
 17 office described by this subsection.
- 18 (c) (b) An electronic voting system must permit a voter to vote:
 19 (1) for as many candidates for an office as the voter may vote for,
 20 but no more;
 21 (2) for or against a public question on which the voter may vote,
 22 but no other; and
 23 (3) for all the candidates for presidential electors and alternate
 24 presidential electors of a political party or an independent ticket
 25 by making a single voting mark.
- 26 SECTION 10. IC 3-11-11-10 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
 27 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 10. If an election is a general or municipal election and~~
 28 ~~a voter desires to vote for all the candidates of one (1) political party or~~
 29 ~~group of petitioners, the voter may make a voting mark on or in a large~~
 30 ~~circle enclosing the device and before the name under which the~~
 31 ~~candidates of the party are printed. The voter's vote shall then be~~
 32 ~~counted for all the candidates under that party name.~~
- 33 SECTION 11. IC 3-11-13-7.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.109-2021,
 34 SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7.5. (a) This section applies to a marking device
 36 used in a voting system that:
- 37 (1) contains features of both a ballot card voting system and an
 38 electronic voting system; and
 39 (2) produces a ballot card with the voter's choices as selected by
 40 the voter and marked on the card by the device.
- 41 (b) The interface of the marking device used with an optical scan
 42 voting system must include all of the following:
- 43 (1) The information required by IC 3-11-14-3.5.
 44 (2) The instructions required by IC 3-11-2-8.
 45 (3) The information and instructions required by IC 3-11-2-10.
- 46 (c) A marking device must comply with the same disability access

1 standards as an electronic voting system under IC 3-11-15-13.6.
2 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a ballot card
3 used with a marking device must have either preprinted or printed by
4 the marking device the following:
5 (1) When the marking device is used for absentee voting under
6 IC 3-11-10-26, the circuit court clerk's signature and seal required
7 by IC 3-11-10-27.
8 (2) When the marking device is used by a voter to cast a
9 provisional ballot, the circuit court clerk's signature and seal
10 required by IC 3-11.7-1-7.
11 (3) A line or box for each poll clerk's initial as required by section
12 19 of this chapter.
13 (4) When the marking device is used during a primary election,
14 the name of the political party whose primary the voter is
15 participating in or the word "nonpartisan" if the voter is voting a
16 ballot that contains only a public question certified by the county
17 election board under IC 3-10-9.
18 (e) If the voting system produces a ballot card, the ballot card must
19 contain a summary ballot scan of the voter's ballot that includes all of
20 the following:
21 (1) The name or designation of each office on the voter's ballot.
22 (2) The name of the candidate and the candidate's political party
23 selected by the voter.
24 ~~(3) If the voter selects a straight party ticket, the name of the~~
25 ~~political party ticket the voter selected.~~
26 ~~(4)~~ (3) A description of the text of any public question or judicial
27 retention question on the voter's ballot that the county election
28 board determines reasonably conveys the content of the public
29 question or judicial retention question and the response the voter
30 selected for each question.
31 The ballot card may contain additional information described in
32 subsection (b).
33 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a ballot card
34 used with the marking device may be a different dimension or size than
35 other ballot cards:
36 (1) approved by the county election board for use in an election;
37 and
38 (2) that are not designed to be marked by the marking device.
39 (g) A voter verifiable paper audit trail is not a marking device.
40 SECTION 12. IC 3-11-13-11, AS AMENDED BY SEA 25-2026,
41 SECTION 2, AND BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF
42 THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS
43 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The ballot
44 information, whether placed on the ballot card or on the marking
45 device, must be in the order of arrangement provided for ballots under
46 this section.

1 (b) Each county election board shall have the names of all
 2 candidates for all elected offices, political party offices, and public
 3 questions printed on a ballot card as provided in this chapter. The
 4 county may:

- 5 (1) print all offices and questions on a single ballot card; and
 6 (2) include a ballot variation code to ensure that the proper
 7 version of a ballot is used within a precinct.

8 (c) Each type of ballot card must be of uniform size and of the same
 9 quality and color of paper (except as permitted under IC 3-10-1-17).

10 (d) The nominees of a political party or an independent candidate
 11 or independent ticket (described in IC 3-11-2-6) nominated by
 12 petitioners shall be listed on the ballot with the name and device set
 13 forth on the certification or petition. The circle containing the device
 14 may be of any size that permits a voter to readily identify the device.
 15 IC 3-11-2-5 applies if the certification or petition does not include a
 16 name or device, or if the same device is selected by two (2) or more
 17 parties or petitioners. In the case of a candidate described in
 18 IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C), a blank space must be printed after the
 19 candidate's name signifying that the candidate elects not to disclose any
 20 affiliation with a political party or that the candidate:

- 21 (1) is not affiliated with a political party; and
 22 (2) does not identify as an independent candidate.

23 (e) The offices and public questions on the general election ballot
 24 must be placed on the ballot in the order listed in IC 3-11-2-12,
 25 IC 3-11-2-12.4, IC 3-11-2-12.5, IC 3-11-2-12.7(b), IC 3-11-2-12.9(a),
 26 IC 3-11-2-12.9(c), IC 3-11-2-13(a) through IC 3-11-2-13(c),
 27 IC 3-11-2-14(a), IC 3-11-2-14(d), and IC 3-11-2-14(e). The offices and
 28 public questions may be listed in a continuous column **or row** either
 29 vertically or horizontally and on a number of separate pages.

30 (f) The name of each office must be printed in a uniform size in bold
 31 type. A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed
 32 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the
 33 first candidate:

- 34 (1) "Vote for one (1) only.", if only one (1) candidate is to be
 35 elected to the office.
 36 (2) "Vote for not more than (insert the number of candidates to be
 37 elected) candidate(s) for this office. To vote for any candidate for
 38 this office, you must make a voting mark for each candidate you
 39 wish to vote for." ~~A straight party vote will not count as a vote for~~
 40 ~~any candidate for this office.~~; if more than one (1) candidate is to
 41 be elected to the office.
 42 (3) ~~"Vote for one (1) only. A straight party vote will not count as~~
 43 ~~a vote for any candidate for this office.~~; if only one (1) candidate
 44 is to be elected to a school board office.

45 (g) Below the name of the office and the statement required by
 46 subsection (f), the names of the candidates for each office must be

- 1 grouped together in the following order:
- 2 (1) The major political party whose candidate received the ~~highest~~
- 3 **greatest** number of votes in the county for secretary of state at the
- 4 ~~last most recent~~ **election for secretary of state** is listed first.
- 5 (2) The major political party whose candidate received the second
- 6 ~~highest greatest~~ number of votes in the county for secretary of
- 7 state **at the most recent election for secretary of state** is listed
- 8 second.
- 9 (3) All other political parties listed in the order that the parties'
- 10 candidates for secretary of state finished in the ~~last most recent~~
- 11 **election for secretary of state** are listed after the party listed in
- 12 subdivision (2).
- 13 (4) If a political party did not have a candidate for secretary of
- 14 state in the ~~last most recent~~ **election for secretary of state** or a
- 15 nominee is an independent candidate or independent ticket
- 16 (described in IC 3-11-2-6), the party or candidate is listed after
- 17 the parties described in subdivisions (1), (2), and (3).
- 18 (5) If more than one (1) political party or independent candidate
- 19 or ticket described in subdivision (4) qualifies to be on the ballot,
- 20 the parties, candidates, or tickets are listed in the order in which
- 21 the party filed its petition of nomination under IC 3-8-6-12.
- 22 (6) The name of a candidate described in IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C)
- 23 is placed after the candidates listed in subdivisions (1) through
- 24 (5), if applicable.
- 25 (7) A space for write-in voting is placed after the candidates listed
- 26 in subdivisions (1) through (6), if required by law.
- 27 (8) The name of a write-in candidate may not be listed on the
- 28 ballot.
- 29 If there is more than one (1) candidate for a grouping described in
- 30 subdivisions (1) through (8) for a school board office, the candidates
- 31 shall appear in the order established by this subsection and within the
- 32 grouping, in alphabetical order according to surname.
- 33 (h) The names of the candidates grouped in the order established by
- 34 subsection (g) must be printed in type with uniform capital letters and
- 35 have a uniform space between each name. The name of the candidate's
- 36 political party, or the word "Independent" if the:
- 37 (1) candidate; or
- 38 (2) ticket of candidates for:
- 39 (A) President and Vice President of the United States; or
- 40 (B) governor and lieutenant governor;
- 41 is independent, must be placed immediately below or beside the name
- 42 of the candidate and must be printed in a uniform size and type. In the
- 43 case of a candidate described in IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C), the name of
- 44 the candidate must be printed with a blank space after the candidate's
- 45 name signifying that the candidate elects not to disclose any affiliation
- 46 with a political party or that the candidate is not affiliated with a

1 political party and does not identify as an independent candidate.

2 (i) All the candidates of the same political party for election to
3 at-large seats on the fiscal or legislative body of a political subdivision
4 must be grouped together:

- 5 (1) under the name of the office that the candidates are seeking;
6 (2) in the order established by subsection (g); and
7 (3) within the political party, in alphabetical order according to
8 surname.

9 A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed
10 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the
11 first candidate: "Vote for not more than (insert the number of
12 candidates to be elected) candidate(s) of ANY party for this office."

13 (j) Candidates for election to at-large seats on the governing body
14 of a school corporation must be grouped:

- 15 (1) under the name of the office that the candidates are seeking;
16 and
17 (2) in alphabetical order according to surname.

18 A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed
19 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the
20 first candidate: "Vote for not more than (insert the number of
21 candidates to be elected) candidate(s) for this office." ~~A straight party
22 vote will not count as a vote for any candidate for this office."~~

23 (k) The following information must be placed at the top of the ballot
24 before the first public question is listed:

- 25 (1) The cautionary statement described in IC 3-11-2-7.
26 (2) The instructions described in IC 3-11-2-8 ~~IC 3-11-2-10(d);~~
27 ~~and IC 3-11-2-10(e).~~ **IC 3-11-2-10(c).**

28 (l) The ballot must include: ~~a single connectable arrow, circle, oval,~~
29 ~~or square; or a voting position for voting a straight party ticket by one~~
30 ~~(+) mark as required by section 14 of this chapter; and the single~~
31 ~~connectable arrow, circle, oval, or square; or the voting position for~~
32 ~~casting a straight party ticket ballot must be identified by:~~

- 33 (1) the name of the political party; and
34 (2) immediately below or beside the political party's name, the
35 device of that party (described in IC 3-11-2-5).

36 The name and device of each political party must be of uniform size
37 and type and arranged in the order established by subsection (g) for
38 listing candidates under each office. ~~The instructions described in~~
39 ~~IC 3-11-2-10(c) for voting a straight party ticket and the statement~~
40 ~~concerning presidential electors required under IC 3-10-4-3 must be~~
41 ~~placed on the ballot label. The instructions for voting a straight party~~
42 ~~ticket must include the statement: "If you do not wish to vote a straight~~
43 ~~party ticket, do not make a mark in this section and proceed to voting~~
44 ~~the ballot by office."~~

45 (m) A public question must be in the form described in
46 IC 3-11-2-15(a) and IC 3-11-2-15(b), except that a single connectable

1 arrow, a circle, or an oval may be used instead of a square. Except as
 2 expressly authorized or required by statute, a county election board
 3 may not print a ballot card that contains language concerning the public
 4 question other than the language authorized by a statute.

5 (n) The requirements in this section:

- 6 (1) do not replace; and
- 7 (2) are in addition to;

8 any other requirements in this title that apply to optical scan ballots.

9 (o) The procedure described in IC 3-11-2-16 must be used when a
 10 ballot does not comply with the requirements imposed by this title or
 11 contains another error or omission that might result in confusion or
 12 mistakes by voters.

13 (p) This subsection applies to an optical scan ballot that does not
 14 list:

- 15 (1) the names of political parties or candidates; or
- 16 (2) the text of public questions;

17 on the face of the ballot. The ballot must be prepared in accordance
 18 with this section, except that the ballot must include a numbered circle
 19 or oval to refer to each political party, candidate, or public question.

20 SECTION 13. IC 3-11-13-14 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
 21 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 14: (a) In partisan elections, the ballot labels must~~
 22 ~~include a voting square or position where a voter may by one (1) voting~~
 23 ~~mark on each card record a straight party ticket vote for all the~~
 24 ~~candidates of one (1) political party, except for offices for which the~~
 25 ~~voter:~~

- 26 ~~(1) is required to cast an individual vote for a candidate under~~
 27 ~~IC 3-11-7-4(b); or~~
- 28 ~~(2) has voted individually for a candidate for any other office.~~

29 ~~(b) A ballot label must not include a voting square or position to~~
 30 ~~permit a voter to cast a straight party ticket for a political party if:~~

- 31 ~~(1) there are no candidates of that political party; or~~
- 32 ~~(2) the only candidates:~~

- 33 ~~(A) of the political party; or~~
- 34 ~~(B) that have stated an affiliation with the political party under~~
 35 ~~IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5);~~

36 ~~are for election to school board offices or offices to which more~~
 37 ~~than one (1) individual is to be elected and which will not be~~
 38 ~~credited with a vote under IC 3-12-1-7 or IC 3-12-1-7.1 if a voter~~
 39 ~~casts a straight party ticket.~~

40 SECTION 14. IC 3-11-13-22, AS AMENDED BY P.L.212-2025,
 41 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 42 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 22. (a) This section applies to:

- 43 (1) a ballot card voting system; and
- 44 (2) a voting system that includes features of a ballot card voting
 45 system and a direct record electronic voting system.

46 (b) Not later than seventy-four (74) days before election day, for

1 each county planning to use automatic tabulating machines at the next
 2 election, VSTOP shall provide each county election board with a
 3 randomly sorted list of unique identification numbers for the inventory
 4 of machines in the county maintained under IC 3-11-16-4. Starting at
 5 the top of the list, the county election board shall select machines in the
 6 list in the order listed so that:

7 (1) if a machine to be selected in the list is not scheduled to be
 8 used in the upcoming election, the selection process will move to
 9 the next machine in the order listed;

10 (2) each selected machine is scheduled to be used in the
 11 upcoming election; and

12 (3) the number of machines selected is not less than five percent
 13 (5%) of the machines in the county scheduled by the county
 14 election board to be used in the upcoming election.

15 (c) The county election board shall test the machines as described
 16 in subsection (b) to ascertain that the machines will correctly ~~do the~~
 17 following:

18 ~~(1) Count the votes cast for straight party tickets, for all~~
 19 ~~candidates (including write-in candidates); and on all public~~
 20 ~~questions;~~

21 ~~(2) retract an absentee ballot card of a voter who is later found~~
 22 ~~disqualified or whose ballot may not be counted, in accordance~~
 23 ~~with IC 3-11.5-4-6, before the voter's ballot is tabulated.~~

24 If an individual attending the public test requests that additional
 25 automatic tabulating machines be tested, then the county election board
 26 shall select and test additional machines from the list in the manner
 27 described in subsection (b).

28 (d) If VSTOP does not provide the lists under subsection (b) not
 29 later than sixty (60) days before the election, the county election board
 30 shall establish and implement a procedure for random selection of not
 31 less than five percent (5%) of the machines in the county to be used in
 32 the upcoming election. The county election board shall then test the
 33 machines selected as described in subsection (c).

34 (e) Not later than seven (7) days after conducting the test under
 35 subsection (c), the county election board shall certify to the election
 36 division that the test has been conducted in conformity with subsection
 37 (c). The testing under subsection (c) must begin before absentee voting
 38 begins in the office of the circuit court clerk under IC 3-11-10-26.

39 (f) Public notice of the time and place shall be given at least
 40 forty-eight (48) hours before the test. The notice shall be published
 41 once in accordance with IC 5-3-1-4.

42 (g) If a county election board determines that:

43 (1) a ballot:

44 (A) must be reprinted or corrected as provided by
 45 IC 3-11-2-16 because of the omission of a candidate, political
 46 party, or public question from the ballot; or

- 1 (B) is an absentee ballot that a voter is entitled to recast under
- 2 IC 3-11.5-4-2 because the absentee ballot includes a candidate
- 3 for election to office who:
- 4 (i) ceased to be a candidate; and
- 5 (ii) has been succeeded by a candidate selected under
- 6 IC 3-13-1 or IC 3-13-2; and
- 7 (2) ballots used in the test conducted under this section were not
- 8 reprinted or corrected to remove the omission of a candidate,
- 9 political party, or public question, or indicate the name of the
- 10 successor candidate;

11 the county election board shall conduct an additional public test
 12 described in subsection (c) using the reprinted or corrected ballots.
 13 Notice of the time and place of the additional test shall be given in
 14 accordance with IC 5-14-1.5, but publication of the notice in
 15 accordance with IC 5-3-1-4 is not required.

16 (h) Notwithstanding IC 3-5-4-1.7, a county election board may send
 17 a signed form from a public test to the election division by electronic
 18 mail or fax.

19 SECTION 15. IC 3-11-13-31.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,
 20 SECTION 99, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 21 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 31.7. (a) This section is enacted to comply with
 22 52 U.S.C. 21081 by establishing uniform and nondiscriminatory
 23 standards to define what constitutes a vote on an optical scan voting
 24 system.

25 (b) After receiving ballot cards, a voter shall, without leaving the
 26 room, go alone into one (1) of the booths or compartments that is
 27 unoccupied and indicate:

- 28 (1) the candidates for whom the voter desires to vote by marking
- 29 the connectable arrows, circles, ovals, or squares immediately
- 30 beside:
- 31 (A) the candidates' names; or
- 32 (B) the numbers referring to the candidates; and
- 33 (2) the voter's preference on each public question by marking the
- 34 connectable arrow, oval, or square beside:
- 35 (A) the word "yes" or "no" under the question; or
- 36 (B) the number referring to the word "yes" or "no" on the
- 37 ballot.

38 (c) If an election is a general or municipal election and a voter
 39 desires to vote for all the candidates of one (1) political party, the voter
 40 may mark:

- 41 (1) the circle enclosing the device; or
- 42 (2) the connectable arrow, circle, oval, or square described in
- 43 section 11 of this chapter;

44 that designates the candidates of that political party. Except as provided
 45 by IC 3-11-7-4(b), the voter's vote shall then be counted for all the
 46 candidates of that political party. However, if the voter marks the

1 circle, arrow, oval, or square of an independent ticket (described in
2 IC 3-11-2-6); the vote shall not be counted for any other independent
3 candidate on the ballot.

4 (d) (c) This subsection applies to a voter casting a ballot on a voting
5 system that includes features of both an optical scan ballot card voting
6 system and a direct record electronic voting system. After entering into
7 a booth used with the voting system, the voter shall indicate the
8 candidates for whom the voter desires to vote and the voter's preference
9 on each public question by:

- 10 (1) inserting a paper ballot or an optical scan ballot into the voting
11 system; or
- 12 (2) using headphones to listen to a recorded list of political
13 parties, candidates, and public questions.

14 (e) (d) A voter using a voting system described in subsection (d) (c)
15 may indicate the voter's selections by:

- 16 (1) touching a device on or in the squares immediately adjacent
17 to the name of a political party, candidate, or response to a public
18 question; or
- 19 (2) indicating the voter's choices by using a sip puff device that
20 enables the voter to indicate a choice by inhaling or exhaling.

21 SECTION 16. IC 3-11-14-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.115-2022,
22 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
23 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsections (c) and
24 (f), a county election board may use an approved electronic voting
25 system:

- 26 (1) in any election;
- 27 (2) in all or in some of the precincts within a political subdivision
28 holding an election; and
- 29 (3) instead of or in combination with any other voting method.

30 (b) A county election board may use an electronic voting system
31 which includes a voter verifiable paper audit trail if the voting system:

- 32 (1) otherwise complies with this chapter and IC 3-11-15; and
- 33 (2) is certified by the Indiana election commission.

34 (c) A county election board may not use an approved electronic
35 voting system purchased, leased, or otherwise acquired by the county
36 after December 31, 2019, unless the system:

- 37 (1) is certified by the Indiana election commission; and
- 38 (2) includes a voter verifiable paper audit trail.

39 This subsection does not prohibit a county election board from having
40 maintenance performed on an electronic voting system purchased,
41 leased, or otherwise acquired by the county before January 1, 2020.

42 (d) The voter verifiable paper audit trail must contain all of the
43 following:

- 44 (1) The name or code of the election as provided by the voting
45 system.
- 46 (2) The date of the election.

- 1 (3) The date the voter verifiable paper audit trail was printed.
- 2 (4) A security code and record number specific to each paper
- 3 receipt assigned by the voting system.
- 4 (5) The name or designation of the voter's precinct.
- 5 (6) The name or designation of each office on the voter's ballot.
- 6 (7) The name of the candidate and the designation of the
- 7 candidate's political party selected by the voter.
- 8 ~~(8) If the voter selects a straight party ticket, the name of the~~
- 9 ~~political party ticket the voter selected.~~
- 10 ~~(9)~~ (8) The following information:
- 11 (A) A description of the text of any public question or judicial
- 12 retention question on the voter's ballot that:
- 13 (i) contains not more than thirty (30) characters; and
- 14 (ii) the county election board determines reasonably conveys
- 15 the content of the public question or judicial retention
- 16 question.
- 17 (B) The response the voter selected for each question.
- 18 (e) The voter verifiable paper audit trail may contain additional
- 19 information and instructions determined to be useful to the voter by the
- 20 county election board subject to the design capabilities of the voter
- 21 verifiable paper audit trail.
- 22 (f) This subsection applies to a county in which any direct record
- 23 electronic voting system that does not include a voter verifiable paper
- 24 audit trail is used for an election. A county election board shall not use
- 25 a direct record electronic voting system in an election after July 1,
- 26 2022, unless the county election board:
- 27 (1) uses a number of direct record electronic voting systems
- 28 including a voter verifiable paper audit trail in the election that is
- 29 equal to or greater than ten percent (10%) of the total number of
- 30 direct record electronic voting systems owned, leased, or
- 31 otherwise available to the county as of January 1, 2022, and as of
- 32 January 1 in each year thereafter;
- 33 (2) determines, not later than July 1, 2022, and January 1 of each
- 34 year thereafter, the minimum number of direct record electronic
- 35 voting systems including a voter verifiable paper audit trail
- 36 necessary to comply with the requirement of this subsection; and
- 37 (3) files a certification of this determination to the secretary of
- 38 state not later than August 11, 2022, and February 11 of each year
- 39 thereafter.
- 40 SECTION 17. IC 3-11-14-3.5, AS AMENDED BY SEA 25-2026,
- 41 SECTION 3, AND BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF
- 42 THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 43 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.5. (a) Each county
- 44 election board shall have the names of all candidates for all elected
- 45 offices, political party offices, and public questions printed on ballot
- 46 labels for use in an electronic voting system as provided in this chapter.

- 1 (b) The county may:
- 2 (1) print all offices and public questions on a single ballot label;
- 3 and
- 4 (2) include a ballot variation code to ensure that the proper
- 5 version of a ballot label is used within a precinct.
- 6 (c) Each type of ballot label must be of uniform size and of the same
- 7 quality and color of paper (except as permitted under IC 3-10-1-17).
- 8 (d) The nominees of a political party or an independent candidate
- 9 or independent ticket (described in IC 3-11-2-6) nominated by
- 10 petitioners must be listed on the ballot label with the name and device
- 11 set forth on the certification or petition. The circle containing the
- 12 device may be of any size that permits a voter to readily identify the
- 13 device. IC 3-11-2-5 applies if the certification or petition does not
- 14 include a name or device, or if the same device is selected by two (2)
- 15 or more parties or petitioners. In the case of a candidate described in
- 16 IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C), a blank space must be printed after the
- 17 candidate's name signifying that the candidate elects not to disclose any
- 18 affiliation with a political party or that the candidate:
- 19 (1) is not affiliated with a political party; and
- 20 (2) does not identify as an independent candidate.
- 21 (e) The ballot labels must list the offices and public questions on the
- 22 general election ballot in the order listed in IC 3-11-2-12,
- 23 IC 3-11-2-12.4, IC 3-11-2-12.5, IC 3-11-2-12.7(b), IC 3-11-2-12.9(a),
- 24 IC 3-11-2-12.9(c), IC 3-11-2-13(a) through IC 3-11-2-13(c),
- 25 IC 3-11-2-14(a), IC 3-11-2-14(d), and IC 3-11-2-14(e). Each office and
- 26 public question may have a separate screen, or the offices and public
- 27 questions may be listed in a continuous column either vertically or
- 28 horizontally.
- 29 (f) The name of each office must be printed in a uniform size in bold
- 30 type. A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed
- 31 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the
- 32 first candidate:
- 33 (1) "Vote for one (1) only.", if only one (1) candidate is to be
- 34 elected to the office.
- 35 (2) "Vote for not more than (insert the number of candidates to be
- 36 elected) candidate(s) for this office. To vote for any candidate for
- 37 this office, you must make a voting mark for each candidate you
- 38 wish to vote for." ~~A straight party vote will not count as a vote for~~
- 39 ~~any candidate for this office.~~; if more than one (1) candidate is to
- 40 be elected to the office.
- 41 ~~(3) "Vote for one (1) only. A straight party vote will not count as~~
- 42 ~~a vote for any candidate for this office."~~; if only one (1) candidate
- 43 ~~is to be elected to a school board office.~~
- 44 (g) Below the name of the office and the statement required by
- 45 subsection (f), the names of the candidates for each office must be
- 46 grouped together in the following order:

- 1 (1) The major political party whose candidate received the **highest**
 2 **greatest** number of votes in the county for secretary of state at the
 3 **last most recent election for secretary of state** is listed first.
- 4 (2) The major political party whose candidate received the second
 5 **highest greatest** number of votes in the county for secretary of
 6 state **at the most recent election for secretary of state** is listed
 7 second.
- 8 (3) All other political parties listed in the order that the parties'
 9 candidates for secretary of state finished in the **last most recent**
 10 **election for secretary of state** are listed after the party listed in
 11 subdivision (2).
- 12 (4) If a political party did not have a candidate for secretary of
 13 state in the **last most recent election for secretary of state** or a
 14 nominee is an independent candidate or independent ticket
 15 (described in IC 3-11-2-6), the party or candidate is listed after
 16 the parties described in subdivisions (1), (2), and (3).
- 17 (5) If more than one (1) political party or independent candidate
 18 or ticket described in subdivision (4) qualifies to be on the ballot,
 19 the parties, candidates, or tickets are listed in the order in which
 20 the party filed its petition of nomination under IC 3-8-6-12.
- 21 (6) The name of a candidate described in IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C)
 22 is placed after the candidates listed in subdivisions (1) through
 23 (5), if applicable.
- 24 (7) A space for write-in voting is placed after the candidates listed
 25 in subdivisions (1) through (6), if required by law. A space for
 26 write-in voting for an office is not required if there are no
 27 declared write-in candidates for that office. However, procedures
 28 must be implemented to permit write-in voting for candidates for
 29 federal offices.
- 30 (8) The name of a write-in candidate may not be listed on the
 31 ballot.
- 32 If there is more than one (1) candidate for a grouping described in
 33 subdivisions (1) through (8) for a school board office, the candidates
 34 shall appear in the order established by this subsection and within the
 35 grouping, in alphabetical order according to surname.
- 36 (h) The names of the candidates grouped in the order established by
 37 subsection (g) must be printed in type with uniform capital letters and
 38 have a uniform space between each name. The name of the candidate's
 39 political party, or the word "Independent", if the:
- 40 (1) candidate; or
- 41 (2) ticket of candidates for:
- 42 (A) President and Vice President of the United States; or
- 43 (B) governor and lieutenant governor;
- 44 is independent, must be placed immediately below or beside the name
 45 of the candidate and must be printed in uniform size and type. In the
 46 case of a candidate described in IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C), the name of

1 the candidate must be printed with a blank space after the candidate's
 2 name signifying that the candidate elects not to disclose any affiliation
 3 with a political party or that the candidate is not affiliated with a
 4 political party and does not identify as an independent candidate.
 5 (i) All the candidates of the same political party for election to
 6 at-large seats on the fiscal or legislative body of a political subdivision
 7 must be grouped together:
 8 (1) under the name of the office that the candidates are seeking;
 9 (2) in the party order established by subsection (g); and
 10 (3) within the political party, in alphabetical order according to
 11 surname.
 12 A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed
 13 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the
 14 first candidate: "Vote for not more than (insert the number of
 15 candidates to be elected) candidate(s) of ANY party for this office."
 16 (j) Candidates for election to at-large seats on the governing body
 17 of a school corporation must be grouped:
 18 (1) under the name of the office that the candidates are seeking;
 19 and
 20 (2) in alphabetical order according to surname.
 21 A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed
 22 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the
 23 first candidate: "Vote for not more than (insert the number of
 24 candidates to be elected) candidate(s) for this office." ~~A straight party~~
 25 ~~vote will not count as a vote for any candidate for this office."~~
 26 (k) The cautionary statement described in IC 3-11-2-7 must be
 27 placed at the top or beginning of the ballot label before the first public
 28 question is listed.
 29 (l) The instructions described in IC 3-11-2-8 ~~IC 3-11-2-10(d)~~; and
 30 ~~IC 3-11-2-10(e)~~ **IC 3-11-2-10(c)** may be:
 31 (1) placed on the ballot label; or
 32 (2) posted in a location within the voting booth that permits the
 33 voter to easily read the instructions.
 34 (m) ~~Except as provided in section 14.5 of this chapter,~~ The ballot
 35 label must include: ~~a touch sensitive point or button for voting a~~
 36 ~~straight political party ticket by one (1) touch,~~ and the touch sensitive
 37 ~~point or button must be identified by:~~
 38 (1) the name of the political party; and
 39 (2) immediately below or beside the political party's name, the
 40 device of that party (described in IC 3-11-2-5).
 41 The name and device of each party must be of uniform size and type,
 42 and arranged in the order established by subsection (g) for listing
 43 candidates under each office. ~~The instructions described in~~
 44 ~~IC 3-11-2-10(e) for voting a straight party ticket and the statement~~
 45 ~~concerning presidential electors required under IC 3-10-4-3 must be~~
 46 ~~placed on the ballot label. The instructions for voting a straight party~~

1 ticket must include the statement: "If you do not wish to vote a straight
2 party ticket, press "NEXT" (or replace "NEXT" with the term used by
3 that voting system to permit a voter to skip a ballot screen) to continue
4 voting."

5 (n) A public question must be in the form described in
6 IC 3-11-2-15(a) and IC 3-11-2-15(b), except that a touch sensitive
7 point or button must be used instead of a square. Except as expressly
8 authorized or required by statute, a county election board may not print
9 a ballot label that contains language concerning the public question
10 other than the language authorized by a statute.

11 (o) The requirements in this section:

- 12 (1) do not replace; and
- 13 (2) are in addition to;

14 any other requirements in this title that apply to ballots for electronic
15 voting systems.

16 (p) The procedure described in IC 3-11-2-16 must be used when a
17 ballot label does not comply with the requirements imposed by this title
18 or contains another error or omission that might result in confusion or
19 mistakes by voters.

20 SECTION 18. IC 3-11-14-14.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
21 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 14.5: A ballot label must not include a touch sensitive
22 point or button to permit a voter to cast a straight party ticket for a
23 political party if:~~

- 24 ~~(1) there are no candidates of that political party; or~~
- 25 ~~(2) the only candidates:~~
 - 26 ~~(A) of the political party; or~~
 - 27 ~~(B) that have stated an affiliation with the political party under~~
28 ~~IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5);~~

29 ~~are for election to school board offices or offices to which more~~
30 ~~than one (1) individual is to be elected and which will not be~~
31 ~~credited with a vote under IC 3-12-1-7 or IC 3-12-1-7.1 if a voter~~
32 ~~casts a straight party ticket.~~

33 SECTION 19. IC 3-11-14-23, AS AMENDED BY P.L.21-2016,
34 SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 23. (a) This section is enacted to comply with 52
36 U.S.C. 21081 by establishing uniform and nondiscriminatory standards
37 to define what constitutes a vote on an electronic voting system.

38 (b) If a voter is not challenged by a member of the precinct election
39 board, the voter may pass the railing to the side where an electronic
40 voting system is and into the voting booth. There the voter shall
41 register the voter's vote in secret by indicating:

- 42 (1) the candidates for whom the voter desires to vote by touching
43 a device on or in the squares immediately above the candidates'
44 names;
- 45 (2) if the voter intends to cast a write-in vote, a write-in vote by
46 touching a device on or in the square immediately below the

1 candidates' names and printing the name of the candidate in the
2 window provided for write-in voting; and
3 (3) the voter's preference on each public question by touching a
4 device above the word "yes" or "no" under the question.
5 (c) If an election is a general or municipal election and a voter
6 desires to vote for all the candidates of one (1) political party or group
7 of petitioners, the voter may cast a straight party ticket by touching that
8 party's device. Except as provided in IC 3-11-7.5-10(b), the voter's vote
9 shall then be counted for all the candidates under that name. However,
10 if the voter casts a vote by touching the circle of an independent ticket
11 comprised of two (2) candidates, the vote shall not be counted for any
12 other independent candidate on the ballot.
13 (d) (c) As provided by 52 U.S.C. 21081, a voter casting a ballot on
14 an electronic voting system must be:
15 (1) permitted to verify in a private and independent manner the
16 votes selected by the voter before the ballot is cast and counted;
17 (2) provided the opportunity to change the ballot or correct any
18 error in a private and independent manner before the ballot is cast
19 and counted, including the opportunity to receive a replacement
20 ballot if the voter is otherwise unable to change or correct the
21 ballot; and
22 (3) notified before the ballot is cast regarding the effect of casting
23 multiple votes for the office and provided an opportunity to
24 correct the ballot before the ballot is cast and counted.
25 SECTION 20. IC 3-11-14.5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.135-2020,
26 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
27 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) Not later than seventy-four (74) days before
28 election day, for each county planning to use an electronic voting
29 system at the next election, VSTOP shall provide each county election
30 board with a randomly sorted list of unique identification numbers for
31 the inventory of machines in the county maintained under
32 IC 3-11-16-4. Starting at the top of the list, the county election board
33 shall select machines in the list in the order listed so that:
34 (1) if a machine to be selected in the list is not scheduled to be
35 used in the upcoming election, the selection process will move to
36 the next machine in the order listed;
37 (2) each selected machine is scheduled to be used in the
38 upcoming election; and
39 (3) the number of machines selected is not less than five percent
40 (5%) of the machines in the county scheduled by the county
41 election board to be used in the upcoming election.
42 (b) The county election board shall test the machines as described
43 in subsection (a) to ascertain that the machines will correctly count the
44 votes cast for straight party tickets; for all candidates (including
45 write-in candidates) and on all public questions. If an individual
46 attending the public test requests that additional electronic voting

1 systems be tested, then the county election board shall select and test
 2 additional machines from the list in the manner described in subsection
 3 (a).

4 (c) If VSTOP does not provide the lists under subsection (a) not
 5 later than sixty (60) days before the election, the county election board
 6 shall establish and implement a procedure for random selection of not
 7 less than five percent (5%) of the machines in the county. The county
 8 election board shall then test the machines selected to be used in the
 9 upcoming election as described in subsection (b).

10 (d) The testing under subsection (b) must begin before absentee
 11 voting starts in the office of the circuit court clerk under IC 3-11-10-26.

12 (e) If a county election board determines that:

13 (1) a ballot provided by an electronic voting system:

14 (A) must be corrected as provided by IC 3-11-2-16 because of
 15 the omission of a candidate, political party, or public question
 16 from the ballot; or

17 (B) is an absentee ballot that a voter is entitled to recast under
 18 IC 3-11.5-4-2 because the absentee ballot includes a candidate
 19 for election to office who:

20 (i) ceased to be a candidate; and

21 (ii) has been succeeded by a candidate selected under
 22 IC 3-13-1 or IC 3-13-2; and

23 (2) machines used in the test conducted under this section did not
 24 contain a ballot that was reprinted or corrected to remove the
 25 omission of a candidate, political party, or public question, or
 26 indicate the name of the successor candidate;

27 the county election board shall conduct an additional public test
 28 described in subsection (b) using the machines previously tested and
 29 containing the reprinted or corrected ballots.

30 SECTION 21. IC 3-12-1-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.64-2014,
 31 SECTION 68, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. Subject to sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 9.5, and 13 of
 33 this chapter, the primary factor to be considered in determining a
 34 voter's choice on a ballot is the intent of the voter. If the voter's intent
 35 can be determined on the ballot or on part of the ballot, the vote shall
 36 be counted for the affected candidate or candidates or on the public
 37 question. However, if it is impossible to determine a voter's choice of
 38 candidates on a part of a ballot or vote on a public question, then the
 39 voter's vote concerning those candidates or public questions may not
 40 be counted.

41 SECTION 22. IC 3-12-1-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.195-2025,
 42 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 43 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) This subsection does not apply to a ballot
 44 card voting system or an electronic voting system. ~~Except as provided~~
 45 ~~in subsection (d)~~; A voting mark made by a voter on or in a voting
 46 square at the left of a candidate's name or political party's name shall

1 be counted as a vote for the candidate. ~~or candidates of the political~~
 2 ~~party.~~

3 (b) This subsection applies to a ballot card voting system. A voting
 4 mark made by a voter:

5 (1) on or in a circle, oval, or square; or
 6 (2) to connect a connectable arrow;
 7 immediately below or beside a candidate's name ~~or political party's~~
 8 ~~name shall be counted as a vote for the candidate. or candidates of the~~
 9 ~~political party; except as provided in subsection (d).~~

10 (c) This subsection applies to a direct record electronic voting
 11 system. A voting mark made by a voter touching a touch sensitive point
 12 or button below or beside a candidate's name ~~or political party's name~~
 13 ~~shall be counted as a vote for the candidate. or candidates of the~~
 14 ~~political party; except as provided in subsection (d).~~

15 (d) A voter who wishes to cast a ballot for a candidate for election
 16 to a school board office or an at-large district to which more than one
 17 (1) person may be elected on a:

18 (1) county council;
 19 (2) city common council;
 20 (3) town council; or
 21 (4) township board;

22 must make a voting mark for each individual candidate for whom the
 23 voter wishes to cast a vote. A straight ticket voting mark on a paper
 24 ballot, ballot card voting system; or electronic voting system shall not
 25 be counted as a straight party ticket voting mark as a vote for any
 26 candidate for an office described by this subsection.

27 SECTION 23. IC 3-12-1-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.21-2016,
 28 SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 29 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) This subsection applies whenever a voter:

30 (1) votes a straight party ticket; and
 31 (2) votes only for one (1) or more individual candidates who are
 32 all of the same political party as the straight ticket vote.

33 Except as provided in subsection (d) or (e), the straight ticket vote shall
 34 be counted and the individual candidate votes may not be counted.

35 (b) This subsection applies whenever:

36 (1) a voter has voted a straight party ticket for the candidates of
 37 one (1) political party;
 38 (2) only one (1) person may be elected to an office; and
 39 (3) the voter has voted for one (1) individual candidate for the
 40 office described in subdivision (2) who is:

41 (A) a candidate of a political party other than the party for
 42 which the voter voted a straight ticket; or
 43 (B) an independent candidate or declared write-in candidate
 44 for the office.

45 If the voter has voted for one (1) individual candidate for the office
 46 described in subdivision (2); the individual candidate vote for that

1 office shall be counted; the straight party ticket vote for that office may
2 not be counted; and the straight party ticket votes for other offices on
3 the ballot shall be counted:

- 4 (c) This subsection applies whenever:
- 5 (1) a voter has voted a straight party ticket for the candidates of
- 6 one (1) political party; and
- 7 (2) the voter has voted for more individual candidates for the
- 8 office than the number of persons to be elected to that office:

9 The individual candidate votes for that office may not be counted; the
10 straight party ticket vote for that office may not be counted; and the
11 straight party ticket votes for other offices on the ballot shall be
12 counted:

- 13 (d) This subsection applies whenever:
- 14 (1) a voter has voted a straight party ticket for the candidates of
- 15 one (1) political party;
- 16 (2) more than one (1) person may be elected to an office; and
- 17 (3) the voter has voted for individual candidates for the office
- 18 described in subdivision (2) who are:

- 19 (A) independent candidates or declared write-in candidates;
- 20 (B) candidates of a political party other than the political party
- 21 for which the voter cast a straight party ticket under
- 22 subdivision (1); or
- 23 (C) a combination of candidates described in clauses (A) and
- 24 (B):

25 The individual votes cast by the voter for the office for the independent
26 candidates; declared write-in candidates; and the candidates of a
27 political party other than the political party for which the voter cast a
28 straight party ticket shall be counted unless the total number of these
29 individual votes is greater than the number of persons to be elected to
30 the office. The straight party ticket votes for the office shall not be
31 counted. The straight party ticket votes for other offices on the voter's
32 ballot shall be counted:

- 33 (e) This subsection applies whenever:
- 34 (1) a voter has voted a straight party ticket for the candidates of
- 35 one (1) political party;
- 36 (2) more than one (1) person may be elected to an office; and
- 37 (3) the voter has voted for individual candidates for the office
- 38 described in subdivision (2) who are:

- 39 (A) independent candidates; declared write-in candidates; or
- 40 candidates of a political party other than the political party for
- 41 which the voter cast a straight party ticket under subdivision
- 42 (1); and
- 43 (B) candidates of the same political party for which the voter
- 44 cast a straight party ticket under subdivision (1):

45 The individual votes cast by the voter for the office for the independent
46 candidates; the declared write-in candidates; and the candidates of a

1 political party other than the political party for which the voter cast a
2 straight party ticket; and the candidates of the political party for which
3 the voter cast a straight party ticket shall be counted unless the total
4 number of these individual votes is greater than the number of persons
5 to be elected to the office. The straight party ticket votes for the office
6 shall not be counted. The straight party ticket votes for other offices on
7 the voter's ballot shall be counted.

8 (f) If a voter votes a straight party ticket for more than one (1)
9 political party, the whole ballot is void with regard to all candidates
10 nominated by a political party; declared write-in candidates; or
11 candidates designated as independent candidates on the ballot.
12 However, the voter's vote for a school board candidate or on a public
13 question shall be counted if otherwise valid under this chapter.

14 (g) (a) If a voter does not vote a straight party ticket and the number
15 of votes cast by that a voter for the candidates for an office are less
16 than or equal to the number of openings for that office, the individual
17 candidates votes shall be counted.

18 (h) (b) If a voter does not vote a straight party ticket and the number
19 of votes cast by that a voter for an office exceeds the number of
20 openings for that office, none of the votes concerning that office may
21 be counted.

22 SECTION 24. IC 3-12-1-7.1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
23 1, 2026]. Sec. 7.1. Notwithstanding section 7 of this chapter, a straight
24 party vote does not count for any candidate for a school board office.

25 SECTION 25. IC 3-12-1-7.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.21-2016,
26 SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
27 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7.5. (a) If a voter votes for one (1) individual
28 candidate for an office for which only one (1) person may be elected
29 and also writes in the name of another candidate for the same office,
30 neither vote may be counted.

31 (b) If a voter votes for at least one (1) individual candidate for an
32 office for which at least two (2) people may be elected and also writes
33 in the name of at least one (1) candidate, the vote for that office may
34 not be counted unless the number of individual votes cast for the office,
35 when added to the number of write-in votes cast for that office, is less
36 than or equal to the number of seats available for that office.

37 (c) If a voter votes an individual or a straight party vote for a
38 candidate for an office and also writes in the name of the same
39 candidate for the same office, only one (1) vote for that candidate may
40 be counted.

41 SECTION 26. IC 3-12-1-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
42 2026]. Sec. 8: (a) Except as provided in subsection (b); a voting mark
43 made by a voter on or in a circle containing a political party device
44 shall be counted as a vote for each candidate of that political party on
45 that ballot.

46 (b) A voter who wishes to cast a ballot for a candidate for election

1 to a school board office or an at-large district to which more than one
 2 (1) person may be elected on a:
 3 (1) county council;
 4 (2) city common council;
 5 (3) town council; or
 6 (4) township board;

7 must make a voting mark for each individual candidate for whom the
 8 voter wishes to cast a vote. A voting mark on or in a circle containing
 9 a political party device shall not be counted as a straight party ticket
 10 voting mark as a vote for any candidate for an office described by this
 11 subsection.

12 SECTION 27. IC 3-12-1-14 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 13 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) This section
 14 does not apply to a vote

15 (1) cast for President or Vice President of the United States under
 16 IC 3-10-4-6. or
 17 (2) described by section 15 of this chapter.

18 (b) A vote cast for a candidate who ceases to be a candidate may not
 19 be counted as a vote for a successor candidate selected under IC 3-13-1
 20 or IC 3-13-2.

21 SECTION 28. IC 3-12-1-15 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
 22 2026]. Sec. 15: (a) This section does not apply to a candidate for a
 23 school board office or an at-large office of a county council, city
 24 common council, town council, or township board, if those offices
 25 appear on a ballot.

26 (b) This section applies to a vote cast for one (1) straight party ticket
 27 that includes a candidate for election to office who:

28 (1) ceases to be a candidate; and
 29 (2) is succeeded by a candidate selected under IC 3-13-1 or
 30 IC 3-13-2.

31 (c) A vote cast in the election for the original nominee is considered
 32 a vote cast for the successor."

33 Delete pages 5 through 18.
 34 Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.
 (Reference is to EHB 1377 as printed February 17, 2026.)

Senator POL JR.