

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

HB 1377 # 3

DIGEST

Paper ballot. Specifies how a vote is counted with a straight ticket with a paper ballot. Makes technical changes by replacing SECTIONS 7 and 9 of the bill with the versions of IC 3-11-13-11 and IC 3-11-14-3.5 as amended by SEA 25-2026.

- 1 Page 6, delete lines 2 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:
2 "SECTION 7. IC 3-11-11-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,
3 SECTION 91, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. If an election is a general or municipal
5 election and a voter desires to vote for all the candidates of one (1)
6 political party or group of petitioners, the voter may make a voting
7 mark on or in a large circle enclosing the device and before the name
8 under which the candidates of the party are printed. The voter's vote
9 shall then be counted ~~for all the candidates under that party name.~~ **in**
10 **accordance with IC 3-12-1.**
11 SECTION 8. IC 3-11-13-11, AS AMENDED BY SEA 25-2026,
12 SECTION 2, AND BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF
13 THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS
14 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The ballot
15 information, whether placed on the ballot card or on the marking
16 device, must be in the order of arrangement provided for ballots under
17 this section.
18 (b) Each county election board shall have the names of all
19 candidates for all elected offices, political party offices, and public
20 questions printed on a ballot card as provided in this chapter. The
21 county may:
22 (1) print all offices and questions on a single ballot card; and
23 (2) include a ballot variation code to ensure that the proper
24 version of a ballot is used within a precinct.
25 (c) Each type of ballot card must be of uniform size and of the same
26 quality and color of paper (except as permitted under IC 3-10-1-17).

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

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

14 (e) The offices and public questions on the general election ballot
 15 must be placed on the ballot in the order listed in IC 3-11-2-12,
 16 ~~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),
 17 IC 3-11-2-12.9(c), IC 3-11-2-13(a) through IC 3-11-2-13(c),
 18 IC 3-11-2-14(a), IC 3-11-2-14(d), and IC 3-11-2-14(e). The offices and
 19 public questions may be listed in a continuous column either vertically
 20 or horizontally and on a number of separate pages.

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

25 (1) "Vote for one (1) only.", if only one (1) candidate is to be
 26 elected to the office.

27 (2) "Vote for not more than (insert the number of candidates to be
 28 elected) candidate(s) for this office. To vote for any candidate for
 29 this office, you must make a voting mark for each candidate you
 30 wish to vote for." ~~A straight party vote will not count as a vote for~~
 31 ~~any candidate for this office.~~; if more than one (1) candidate is to
 32 be elected to the office.

33 **(3) "Vote for not more than (insert the number of candidates**
 34 **to be elected) candidate(s) for this office. To vote for any**
 35 **candidate for this office, you must make a voting mark for**
 36 **each candidate you wish to vote for. A straight party vote will**
 37 **not count as a vote for any candidate for this office.", if more**
 38 **than one (1) candidate is to be elected to a school board office.**

39 ~~(3)~~ **(4) "Vote for one (1) only. A straight party vote will not count**
 40 **as a vote for any candidate for this office.", if only one (1)**

1 candidate is to be elected to a school board office.

2 (g) Below the name of the office and the statement required by
3 subsection (f), the names of the candidates for each office must be
4 grouped together in the following order:

5 (1) The major political party whose candidate received the highest
6 number of votes in the county for secretary of state at the last
7 election is listed first.

8 (2) The major political party whose candidate received the second
9 highest number of votes in the county for secretary of state is
10 listed second.

11 (3) All other political parties listed in the order that the parties'
12 candidates for secretary of state finished in the last election are
13 listed after the party listed in subdivision (2).

14 (4) If a political party did not have a candidate for secretary of
15 state in the last election or a nominee is an independent candidate
16 or independent ticket (described in IC 3-11-2-6), the party or
17 candidate is listed after the parties described in subdivisions (1),
18 (2), and (3).

19 (5) If more than one (1) political party or independent candidate
20 or ticket described in subdivision (4) qualifies to be on the ballot,
21 the parties, candidates, or tickets are listed in the order in which
22 the party filed its petition of nomination under IC 3-8-6-12.

23 (6) The name of a candidate described in IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C)
24 is placed after the candidates listed in subdivisions (1) through
25 (5), if applicable.

26 (7) A space for write-in voting is placed after the candidates listed
27 in subdivisions (1) through (6), if required by law.

28 (8) The name of a write-in candidate may not be listed on the
29 ballot.

30 If there is more than one (1) candidate for a grouping described in
31 subdivisions (1) through (8) for a school board office, the candidates
32 shall appear in the order established by this subsection and within the
33 grouping, in alphabetical order according to surname.

34 (h) The names of the candidates grouped in the order established by
35 subsection (g) must be printed in type with uniform capital letters and
36 have a uniform space between each name. The name of the candidate's
37 political party, or the word "Independent" if the:

38 (1) candidate; or

39 (2) ticket of candidates for:

40 (A) President and Vice President of the United States; or

1 (B) governor and lieutenant governor;
 2 is independent, must be placed immediately below or beside the name
 3 of the candidate and must be printed in a uniform size and type. In the
 4 case of a candidate described in IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C), the name of
 5 the candidate must be printed with a blank space after the candidate's
 6 name signifying that the candidate elects not to disclose any affiliation
 7 with a political party or that the candidate is not affiliated with a
 8 political party and does not identify as an independent candidate.

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

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

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

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

- 22 (1) under the name of the office that the candidates are seeking;
 23 and
- 24 (2) in alphabetical order according to surname.

25 A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed
 26 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the
 27 first candidate: "Vote for not more than (insert the number of
 28 candidates to be elected) candidate(s) for this office. A straight party
 29 vote will not count as a vote for any candidate for this office."

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

- 32 (1) The cautionary statement described in IC 3-11-2-7.
- 33 (2) The instructions described in IC 3-11-2-8, IC 3-11-2-10(d),
 34 and IC 3-11-2-10(e).

35 (l) The ballot must include a single connectable arrow, circle, oval,
 36 or square, or a voting position for voting a straight party ticket by one
 37 (1) mark as required by section 14 of this chapter, and the single
 38 connectable arrow, circle, oval, or square, or the voting position for
 39 casting a straight party ticket ballot must be identified by:

- 40 (1) the name of the political party; and

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

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

12 (m) A public question must be in the form described in
13 IC 3-11-2-15(a) and IC 3-11-2-15(b), except that a single connectable
14 arrow, a circle, or an oval may be used instead of a square. Except as
15 expressly authorized or required by statute, a county election board
16 may not print a ballot card that contains language concerning the public
17 question other than the language authorized by a statute.

18 (n) The requirements in this section:

19 (1) do not replace; and

20 (2) are in addition to;

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

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

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

28 (1) the names of political parties or candidates; or

29 (2) the text of public questions;

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

33 Delete pages 7 through 8.

34 Page 9, delete lines 1 through 38.

35 Page 10, delete lines 18 through 42, begin a new paragraph and
36 insert:

37 "SECTION 9. IC 3-11-14-3.5, AS AMENDED BY SEA 25-2026,
38 SECTION 3, AND BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF
39 THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS
40 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.5. (a) Each county

1 election board shall have the names of all candidates for all elected
 2 offices, political party offices, and public questions printed on ballot
 3 labels for use in an electronic voting system as provided in this chapter.

4 (b) The county may:

5 (1) print all offices and public questions on a single ballot label;

6 and

7 (2) include a ballot variation code to ensure that the proper
 8 version of a ballot label is used within a precinct.

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

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

22 (1) is not affiliated with a political party; and

23 (2) does not identify as an independent candidate.

24 (e) The ballot labels must list the offices and public questions on the
 25 general election ballot in the order listed in IC 3-11-2-12,
 26 ~~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),
 27 IC 3-11-2-12.9(c), IC 3-11-2-13(a) through IC 3-11-2-13(c),
 28 IC 3-11-2-14(a), IC 3-11-2-14(d), and IC 3-11-2-14(e). Each office and
 29 public question may have a separate screen, or the offices and public
 30 questions may be listed in a continuous column either vertically or
 31 horizontally.

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

36 (1) "Vote for one (1) only.", if only one (1) candidate is to be
 37 elected to the office.

38 (2) "Vote for not more than (insert the number of candidates to be
 39 elected) candidate(s) for this office. To vote for any candidate for
 40 this office, you must make a voting mark for each candidate you

1 wish to vote for.", ~~A straight party vote will not count as a vote for~~
 2 ~~any candidate for this office.~~", if more than one (1) candidate is to
 3 be elected to the office.

4 **(3) "Vote for not more than (insert the number of candidates**
 5 **to be elected) candidate(s) for this office. To vote for any**
 6 **candidate for this office, you must make a voting mark for**
 7 **each candidate you wish to vote for. A straight party vote will**
 8 **not count as a vote for any candidate for this office.", if more**
 9 **than one (1) candidate is to be elected to a school board office.**

10 ~~(3)~~ **(4) "Vote for one (1) only. A straight party vote will not count**
 11 **as a vote for any candidate for this office.", if only one (1)**
 12 **candidate is to be elected to a school board office.**

13 (g) Below the name of the office and the statement required by
 14 subsection (f), the names of the candidates for each office must be
 15 grouped together in the following order:

16 (1) The major political party whose candidate received the highest
 17 number of votes in the county for secretary of state at the last
 18 election is listed first.

19 (2) The major political party whose candidate received the second
 20 highest number of votes in the county for secretary of state is
 21 listed second.

22 (3) All other political parties listed in the order that the parties'
 23 candidates for secretary of state finished in the last election are
 24 listed after the party listed in subdivision (2).

25 (4) If a political party did not have a candidate for secretary of
 26 state in the last election or a nominee is an independent candidate
 27 or independent ticket (described in IC 3-11-2-6), the party or
 28 candidate is listed after the parties described in subdivisions (1),
 29 (2), and (3).

30 (5) If more than one (1) political party or independent candidate
 31 or ticket described in subdivision (4) qualifies to be on the ballot,
 32 the parties, candidates, or tickets are listed in the order in which
 33 the party filed its petition of nomination under IC 3-8-6-12.

34 (6) The name of a candidate described in IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C)
 35 is placed after the candidates listed in subdivisions (1) through
 36 (5), if applicable.

37 (7) A space for write-in voting is placed after the candidates listed
 38 in subdivisions (1) through (6), if required by law. A space for
 39 write-in voting for an office is not required if there are no
 40 declared write-in candidates for that office. However, procedures

1 must be implemented to permit write-in voting for candidates for
2 federal offices.

3 (8) The name of a write-in candidate may not be listed on the
4 ballot.

5 If there is more than one (1) candidate for a grouping described in
6 subdivisions (1) through (8) for a school board office, the candidates
7 shall appear in the order established by this subsection and within the
8 grouping, in alphabetical order according to surname.

9 (h) The names of the candidates grouped in the order established by
10 subsection (g) must be printed in type with uniform capital letters and
11 have a uniform space between each name. The name of the candidate's
12 political party, or the word "Independent", if the:

13 (1) candidate; or

14 (2) ticket of candidates for:

15 (A) President and Vice President of the United States; or

16 (B) governor and lieutenant governor;

17 is independent, must be placed immediately below or beside the name
18 of the candidate and must be printed in uniform size and type. In the
19 case of a candidate described in IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C), the name of
20 the candidate must be printed with a blank space after the candidate's
21 name signifying that the candidate elects not to disclose any affiliation
22 with a political party or that the candidate is not affiliated with a
23 political party and does not identify as an independent candidate.

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

27 (1) under the name of the office that the candidates are seeking;

28 (2) in the party order established by subsection (g); and

29 (3) within the political party, in alphabetical order according to
30 surname.

31 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: "Vote for not more than (insert the number of
34 candidates to be elected) candidate(s) of ANY party for this office."

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

37 (1) under the name of the office that the candidates are seeking;
38 and

39 (2) in alphabetical order according to surname.

40 A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed

1 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the
 2 first candidate: "Vote for not more than (insert the number of
 3 candidates to be elected) candidate(s) for this office. A straight party
 4 vote will not count as a vote for any candidate for this office."

5 (k) The cautionary statement described in IC 3-11-2-7 must be
 6 placed at the top or beginning of the ballot label before the first public
 7 question is listed.

8 (l) The instructions described in IC 3-11-2-8, IC 3-11-2-10(d), and
 9 IC 3-11-2-10(e) may be:

10 (1) placed on the ballot label; or

11 (2) posted in a location within the voting booth that permits the
 12 voter to easily read the instructions.

13 (m) Except as provided in section 14.5 of this chapter, the ballot
 14 label must include a touch sensitive point or button for voting a straight
 15 political party ticket by one (1) touch, and the touch sensitive point or
 16 button must be identified by:

17 (1) the name of the political party; and

18 (2) immediately below or beside the political party's name, the
 19 device of that party (described in IC 3-11-2-5).

20 The name and device of each party must be of uniform size and type,
 21 and arranged in the order established by subsection (g) for listing
 22 candidates under each office. The instructions described in
 23 IC 3-11-2-10(c) for voting a straight party ticket and the statement
 24 concerning presidential electors required under IC 3-10-4-3 must be
 25 placed on the ballot label. The instructions for voting a straight party
 26 ticket must include the statement: "If you do not wish to vote a straight
 27 party ticket, press "NEXT" (or replace "NEXT" with the term used by
 28 that voting system to permit a voter to skip a ballot screen) to continue
 29 voting."

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

36 (o) The requirements in this section:

37 (1) do not replace; and

38 (2) are in addition to;

39 any other requirements in this title that apply to ballots for electronic
 40 voting systems.

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

5 Delete pages 11 through 13.

6 Page 14, delete lines 1 through 13.

7 Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

(Reference is to HB 1377 as reprinted January 21, 2026.)