



# COMMITTEE REPORT

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## MR. PRESIDENT:

The Senate Committee on Elections, to which was referred House Bill No. 1377, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

- 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

1 county may:

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

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

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

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

20 (e) The offices and public questions on the general election ballot  
 21 must be placed on the ballot in the order listed in IC 3-11-2-12,  
 22 ~~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),  
 23 IC 3-11-2-12.9(c), IC 3-11-2-13(a) through IC 3-11-2-13(c),  
 24 IC 3-11-2-14(a), IC 3-11-2-14(d), and IC 3-11-2-14(e). The offices and  
 25 public questions may be listed in a continuous column either vertically  
 26 or horizontally and on a number of separate pages.

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

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

39 **(3) "Vote for not more than (insert the number of candidates**  
 40 **to be elected) candidate(s) for this office. To vote for any**  
 41 **candidate for this office, you must make a voting mark for**  
 42 **each candidate you wish to vote for. A straight party vote will**

1           **not count as a vote for any candidate for this office.", if more**  
 2           **than one (1) candidate is to be elected to a school board office.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

42           (1) candidate; or

- 1 (2) ticket of candidates for:
- 2 (A) President and Vice President of the United States; or
- 3 (B) governor and lieutenant governor;
- 4 is independent, must be placed immediately below or beside the name
- 5 of the candidate and must be printed in a uniform size and type. In the
- 6 case of a candidate described in IC 3-8-2.5-2.5(a)(5)(C), the name of
- 7 the candidate must be printed with a blank space after the candidate's
- 8 name signifying that the candidate elects not to disclose any affiliation
- 9 with a political party or that the candidate is not affiliated with a
- 10 political party and does not identify as an independent candidate.
- 11 (i) All the candidates of the same political party for election to
- 12 at-large seats on the fiscal or legislative body of a political subdivision
- 13 must be grouped together:
- 14 (1) under the name of the office that the candidates are seeking;
- 15 (2) in the order established by subsection (g); and
- 16 (3) within the political party, in alphabetical order according to
- 17 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) of ANY party for this office."
- 22 (j) Candidates for election to at-large seats on the governing body
- 23 of a school corporation must be grouped:
- 24 (1) under the name of the office that the candidates are seeking;
- 25 and
- 26 (2) in alphabetical order according to surname.
- 27 A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed
- 28 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the
- 29 first candidate: "Vote for not more than (insert the number of
- 30 candidates to be elected) candidate(s) for this office. A straight party
- 31 vote will not count as a vote for any candidate for this office."
- 32 (k) The following information must be placed at the top of the ballot
- 33 before the first public question is listed:
- 34 (1) The cautionary statement described in IC 3-11-2-7.
- 35 (2) The instructions described in IC 3-11-2-8, IC 3-11-2-10(d),
- 36 and IC 3-11-2-10(e).
- 37 (l) The ballot must include a single connectable arrow, circle, oval,
- 38 or square, or a voting position for voting a straight party ticket by one
- 39 (1) mark as required by section 14 of this chapter, and the single
- 40 connectable arrow, circle, oval, or square, or the voting position for
- 41 casting a straight party ticket ballot must be identified by:
- 42 (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  
41 election board shall have the names of all candidates for all elected  
42 offices, political party offices, and public questions printed on ballot

1 labels for use in an electronic voting system as provided in this chapter.

2 (b) The county may:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 not more than (insert the number of candidates

1           **to be elected) candidate(s) for this office. To vote for any**  
 2           **candidate for this office, you must make a voting mark for**  
 3           **each candidate you wish to vote for. A straight party vote will**  
 4           **not count as a vote for any candidate for this office.", if more**  
 5           **than one (1) candidate is to be elected to a school board office.**

6           ~~(3)~~ (4) "Vote for one (1) only. A straight party vote will not count  
 7           as a vote for any candidate for this office.", if only one (1)  
 8           candidate is to be elected to a school board office.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

33          (7) A space for write-in voting is placed after the candidates listed  
 34          in subdivisions (1) through (6), if required by law. A space for  
 35          write-in voting for an office is not required if there are no  
 36          declared write-in candidates for that office. However, procedures  
 37          must be implemented to permit write-in voting for candidates for  
 38          federal offices.

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

41          If there is more than one (1) candidate for a grouping described in  
 42          subdivisions (1) through (8) for a school board office, the candidates

1 shall appear in the order established by this subsection and within the  
2 grouping, in alphabetical order according to surname.

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

7 (1) candidate; or

8 (2) ticket of candidates for:

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

10 (B) governor and lieutenant governor;

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

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

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

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

23 (3) within the political party, in alphabetical order according to  
24 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) of ANY party for this office."

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

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

32 and

33 (2) in alphabetical order according to surname.

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

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

42 (l) The instructions described in IC 3-11-2-8, IC 3-11-2-10(d), and

1 IC 3-11-2-10(e) may be:

- 2 (1) placed on the ballot label; or  
 3 (2) posted in a location within the voting booth that permits the  
 4 voter to easily read the instructions.

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

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

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

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

28 (o) The requirements in this section:

- 29 (1) do not replace; and  
 30 (2) are in addition to;  
 31 any other requirements in this title that apply to ballots for electronic  
 32 voting systems.

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

- 1 Delete pages 11 through 13.
- 2 Page 14, delete lines 1 through 13.
- 3 Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.  
(Reference is to HB 1377 as reprinted January 21, 2026.)

**and when so amended that said bill do pass .**

Committee Vote: Yeas 7, Nays 2.

**Senator Gaskill, Chairperson**