

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6830

BILL NUMBER: HB 1377

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 20, 2026

BILL AMENDED: Jan 20, 2026

SUBJECT: Straight Ticket Voting.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Payne

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 1st House

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) The bill provisions that prohibit counting straight party votes for candidates for election to an at-large district to which more than one person may be elected. The bill removes a provision requiring particular ballot placement when more than one candidate may be elected to an office. The bill provides that if a voter votes a straight party ticket and also selects one or more individual candidates for an office to which more than one person may be elected, the: (1) individual votes shall be counted unless the total number of individual votes is greater than the number of persons to be elected to the office; (2) straight party votes for the office shall not be counted; and (3) straight party votes for other offices on the ballot shall be counted. The bill makes conforming amendments.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The Election Division may need to update publications and/or other informational documents in order to include the bill's changes. It is likely the Division would be able to make any updates as routine administrative business.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Although, some additional ballot programming may be needed, DRE voting systems are equipped to vote straight-party. The DRE systems do have the option for the de-selection of certain down ballot candidates for at-large districts. School board selections would not be affected by the changes within the bill.

Optical-scan voting systems also allow for the marking of selected candidates after the voter has filled in a straight-party oval on their ballot sheet. The scanner will override the straight-party selection when an additional oval for any office is selected by the voter.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Election Division.

Local Agencies Affected: County election boards.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.