

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

**LS 6830**  
**BILL NUMBER: HB 1377**

**NOTE PREPARED: Feb 16, 2026**  
**BILL AMENDED: Feb 16, 2026**

**SUBJECT:** Straight Ticket Voting.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Payne  
**FIRST SPONSOR:** Sen. Johnson T

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) The bill repeals 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. The bill specifies how a vote is counted with a straight ticket on a paper ballot.

**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:** (Revised) 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.

It is likely the overall processing of paper ballots would not be affected by this provision.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Election Division.

**Local Agencies Affected:** County election boards.

**Information Sources:**

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