

# HOUSE BILL No. 1560

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 3-6-4.2-14; IC 3-10-7-32; IC 3-11; IC 3-12-1.

**Synopsis:** Straight ticket voting. Removes a voter's option to vote for all candidates of a political party or an independent ticket at one time (straight ticket voting) in a general or municipal election. Repeals superseded statutes relating to straight ticket voting.

**Effective:** July 1, 2025.

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**Dant Chesser, Clere, Hamilton**

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January 21, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Elections and Apportionment.

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First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1560

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning elections.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 3-6-4.2-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.141-2023,  
2 SECTION 2, AND BY P.L.227-2023, SECTION 11, IS AMENDED  
3 TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 14. (a)  
4 Each year in which a general or municipal election is held, the election  
5 division shall call a meeting of all the members of the county election  
6 boards, the boards of registration (subject to IC 3-7-12), and the boards  
7 of elections and registration (as defined in IC 3-5-2-5.3) to instruct  
8 them regarding all of the following:  
9 (1) Their duties under this title and federal law (including HAVA  
10 and NVRA).  
11 (2) Requirements and best practices concerning cybersecurity for  
12 the computerized list, voting systems, and electronic poll books.  
13 (3) Physical security for all aspects of the election process,  
14 including voting systems, electronic poll books, absentee voting,  
15 and polling places.  
16 (4) Requirements and best practices to ensure that voting systems,  
17 precinct polling places, and vote centers are accessible to voters



- 1 with disabilities.
- 2 (5) Best practices in answering voters' questions on how to vote.
- 3 ~~including providing instructions to voters on straight ticket voting.~~
- 4 (b) The election division may call a meeting under this section:
- 5 (1) during a year in which a general or a municipal election is not
- 6 held; and
- 7 (2) at other times when the election division determines that doing
- 8 so is necessary or desirable.
- 9 (c) Each circuit court clerk, each member of a board of registration
- 10 established under IC 3-7-12, and each director, assistant director, or
- 11 co-director of a board of elections and registration shall attend a
- 12 meeting called by the election division under this section. A member
- 13 of a county election board may attend a meeting called by the election
- 14 division under this section. A circuit court clerk, member of a board of
- 15 registration, or member of a board of elections and registration may
- 16 require the attendance of the following:
- 17 (1) Each of the circuit court clerk's, board of registration
- 18 member's, or board of elections and registration member's
- 19 appointed and acting chief deputies or chief assistants with
- 20 election related responsibilities.
- 21 (2) If the number of deputies or assistants:
- 22 (A) is not more than three (3), one (1) of the clerk's or
- 23 member's appointed and acting deputies or assistants; or
- 24 (B) is greater than three (3), two (2) of the clerk's or member's
- 25 appointed and acting deputies or assistants.
- 26 (d) The election division shall set the time and place of the
- 27 instructional meeting. In years in which a primary election is held, the
- 28 election division:
- 29 (1) may conduct the meeting before the first day of the year; and
- 30 (2) shall conduct the meeting before primary election day.
- 31 The instructional meeting may not last for more than three (3) days.
- 32 (e) Each individual who attends the meeting under subsection (c)
- 33 and an individual who has been elected or selected to serve as circuit
- 34 court clerk but has not yet begun serving in that office is entitled to
- 35 receive all of the following from the county general fund without
- 36 appropriation:
- 37 (1) A sum for mileage at a rate determined by the fiscal body of
- 38 the unit the official represents for each mile necessarily traveled
- 39 in going to and returning from the meeting by the most
- 40 expeditious route. Regardless of the duration of the conference,
- 41 only one (1) mileage reimbursement shall be allowed to the
- 42 official furnishing the conveyance even if the official transports



- 1 more than one (1) person.
- 2 (2) An allowance for lodging for each night preceding conference  
3 attendance in an amount equal to the single room rate. However,  
4 lodging expense, in the case of a one (1) day conference, shall  
5 only be allowed for persons who reside fifty (50) miles or farther  
6 from the conference location.
- 7 (3) Reimbursement of an official, a deputy, or an assistant in an  
8 amount determined by the fiscal body of the unit the official,  
9 deputy, or assistant represents, for meals purchased while  
10 attending a conference called under this section.
- 11 (f) The election division shall certify the number of days of  
12 attendance and the mileage for each conference to each official, deputy,  
13 or assistant attending any conference under this section.
- 14 (g) All payments of mileage and lodging shall be made by the  
15 proper disbursing officer in the manner provided by law on a duly  
16 verified claim or voucher to which shall be attached the certificate of  
17 the election division showing the number of days attended and the  
18 number of miles traveled. All payments shall be made from the county  
19 general fund from any money not otherwise appropriated and without  
20 any previous appropriation being made therefore.
- 21 (h) A claim for reimbursement under this section may not be denied  
22 by the body responsible for the approval of claims if the claim complies  
23 with IC 5-11-10-1.6 and this section.
- 24 SECTION 2. IC 3-10-7-32, AS AMENDED BY P.L.190-2011,  
25 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
26 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 32. (a) A town election board shall determine  
27 what voting method will be used in a municipal election.
- 28 (b) The town election board and its precinct election officers shall  
29 perform the duties of the county election board and its precinct election  
30 officers under IC 3-11 for each voting method used.
- 31 (c) The town election board shall prepare the ballots in the form  
32 prescribed by IC 3-11 and distribute them to the precincts in the town.
- 33 (d) This subsection applies only to paper ballots. Notwithstanding  
34 subsection (c), the town election board, by unanimous consent of the  
35 board's entire membership, may authorize the printing or reproduction  
36 of ballots on equipment under the control of the town clerk-treasurer.  
37 If the town election board acts under this subsection, the ballots are not  
38 required to conform to the precise dimensions concerning the size of  
39 political party devices under IC 3-11-2-9 or the placement of a  
40 candidate's name under ~~IC 3-11-2-10(f)~~. **IC 3-11-2-10(d)**. However,  
41 the ballots must otherwise substantially conform with IC 3-11-2.
- 42 SECTION 3. IC 3-11-2-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,



1 SECTION 65, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
2 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 9. (a) The device of each political party described  
3 in section 6 of this chapter shall be:

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

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

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

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

10 ~~(2) the only candidates of the political party are for election to~~  
11 ~~offices to which more than one (1) individual is to be elected and~~  
12 ~~which will not be credited with a vote under IC 3-12-1-7 if a voter~~  
13 ~~casts a straight party ticket.~~

14 SECTION 4. IC 3-11-2-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,  
15 SECTION 66, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
16 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 10. (a) Public questions shall be placed on the  
17 general election ballot in the following order after the statement  
18 described in section 7 of this chapter, and the instructions described in  
19 subsections ~~(d) and (e)~~ subsection (c) and section 8 of this chapter, if  
20 instructions are printed on the ballot:

21 (1) Ratification of a state constitutional amendment.

22 (2) Local public questions.

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

25 (b) The name or title of the political party shall be placed on the  
26 general election ballot after the public questions described in  
27 subsection (a). The device of the political party shall be placed  
28 immediately under the name of the political party. ~~Notwithstanding~~  
29 ~~section 8(b) of this chapter, the instructions for voting a straight party~~  
30 ~~ticket shall be placed to the right of the device on the ballot.~~

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

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

36 ~~(2) To vote a straight (insert political party name) ticket for all~~  
37 ~~(insert political party name) candidates on this ballot, except for~~  
38 ~~candidates described in (3) below; make a voting mark on or in~~  
39 ~~this circle and do not make any other marks on this ballot.~~

40 ~~(3) To vote for any candidate for an at-large office (insert county~~  
41 ~~council; city common council; town council; or township board if~~  
42 ~~those offices appear on this ballot) to which more than one (1)~~



1 person may be elected; you must make another voting mark for  
 2 each candidate you wish to vote for. Your straight party vote will  
 3 not count as a vote for any candidate for that office.

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

7 (d) Except as permitted under section 8(b) of this chapter, if the  
 8 ballot contains an independent ticket described in section 6 of this  
 9 chapter and at least one (1) other independent candidate, the ballot  
 10 must also contain a statement that reads substantially as follows: "A  
 11 vote cast for an independent ticket will only be counted for the  
 12 candidates for President and Vice President or governor and lieutenant  
 13 governor comprising that independent ticket. This vote will NOT be  
 14 counted for any OTHER independent candidate appearing on the  
 15 ballot."

16 (e) (c) Except as permitted under section 8(b) of this chapter, the  
 17 ballot must also contain a statement that reads substantially as follows:  
 18 "A write-in vote will NOT be counted unless the vote is for a  
 19 DECLARED write-in candidate. To vote for a write-in candidate, you  
 20 must make a voting mark on or in the square to the left of the name you  
 21 have written in or your vote will not be counted."

22 (f) (d) Subject to section 10.1 of this chapter, the list of candidates  
 23 of the political party shall be placed immediately under the instructions  
 24 for voting a straight party ticket. The names of the candidates shall be  
 25 placed three-fourths (3/4) of an inch apart from center to center of the  
 26 name. The name of each candidate must have, immediately on its left,  
 27 a square three-eighths (3/8) of an inch on each side.

28 (g) (e) The circuit court clerk may authorize the printing of ballots  
 29 containing a ballot variation code to ensure that the proper version of  
 30 a ballot is used within a precinct.

31 SECTION 5. IC 3-11-2-12.4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.109-2021,  
 32 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 33 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 12.4. (a) This section applies whenever more than  
 34 one (1) candidate may be elected to an office.

35 (b) The office shall be placed on the general election ballot after the  
 36 offices described in section 12 of this chapter and before the offices  
 37 described in section 12.9 of this chapter.

38 (c) Whenever candidates are to be elected to a county council, city  
 39 common council, or town council that includes both an at-large  
 40 member and a member representing a district, the candidates seeking  
 41 election as an at-large member shall be placed on the ballot before  
 42 candidates seeking to represent a district.



1 (d) The ballot shall contain a statement reading substantially as  
 2 follows above the name of the first candidate: "To vote for any  
 3 candidate for this office, you must make a voting mark for each  
 4 candidate you wish to vote for." ~~A straight party vote will not count as~~  
 5 ~~a vote for any candidate for this office."~~

6 SECTION 6. IC 3-11-7-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.278-2019,  
 7 SECTION 65, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 8 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 4. (a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (b);~~ A  
 9 ballot card voting system must permit a voter to vote

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

13 ~~(2) for one (1) or more candidates of each political party or~~  
 14 ~~independent candidates, or for one (1) or more school board~~  
 15 ~~candidates nominated by petition.~~

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

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

21 ~~(b) A ballot card voting system must require that a voter who wishes~~  
 22 ~~to cast a ballot for a candidate for election to an at-large district to~~  
 23 ~~which more than one person may be elected; or a:~~

24 ~~(1) county council;~~

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

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

27 ~~(4) township board;~~

28 ~~make a voting mark for each individual candidate for whom the voter~~  
 29 ~~wishes to cast a vote. The ballot card voting system may not count any~~  
 30 ~~straight party ticket voting mark as a vote for any candidate for an~~  
 31 ~~office described by this subsection.~~

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

33 ~~(1) for all candidates for presidential electors and alternate~~  
 34 ~~presidential electors of a political party or an independent ticket~~  
 35 ~~by making a single voting mark; and~~

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

37 SECTION 7. IC 3-11-7-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
 38 2025]. Sec. 6. ~~A ballot card voting system must count a ballot in~~  
 39 ~~accordance with IC 3-12-1-7 when a voter votes a straight ticket vote~~  
 40 ~~and votes for individual candidates as described by IC 3-12-1-7.~~

41 SECTION 8. IC 3-11-7.5-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.278-2019,  
 42 SECTION 66, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



1 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 10. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b); An  
 2 electronic voting system must permit a voter to vote

3 ~~(1) except at a primary election, a straight party ticket for all the~~  
 4 ~~candidates of one (1) political party by touching the device of that~~  
 5 ~~party;~~

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

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

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

14 (b) An electronic voting system must require that a voter who  
 15 wishes to cast a ballot for a candidate for election to an at-large district  
 16 to which more than one person may be elected; on a:

17 (1) county council;

18 (2) city common council;

19 (3) town council; or

20 (4) township board;

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

25 (c) (b) An electronic voting system must permit a voter to vote:

26 (1) for as many candidates for an office as the voter may vote for,  
 27 but no more;

28 (2) for or against a public question on which the voter may vote,  
 29 but no other; and

30 (3) for all the candidates for presidential electors and alternate  
 31 presidential electors of a political party or an independent ticket  
 32 by making a single voting mark.

33 SECTION 9. IC 3-11-11-10 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
 34 2025]. Sec. 10. If an election is a general or municipal election and a  
 35 voter desires to vote for all the candidates of one (1) political party or  
 36 group of petitioners, the voter may make a voting mark on or in a large  
 37 circle enclosing the device and before the name under which the  
 38 candidates of the party are printed. The voter's vote shall then be  
 39 counted for all the candidates under that party name:

40 SECTION 10. IC 3-11-13-7.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.109-2021,  
 41 SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 42 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 7.5. (a) This section applies to a marking device





- 1 used in a voting system that:
- 2 (1) contains features of both a ballot card voting system and an
- 3 electronic voting system; and
- 4 (2) produces a ballot card with the voter's choices as selected by
- 5 the voter and marked on the card by the device.
- 6 (b) The interface of the marking device used with an optical scan
- 7 voting system must include all of the following:
- 8 (1) The information required by IC 3-11-14-3.5.
- 9 (2) The instructions required by IC 3-11-2-8.
- 10 (3) The information and instructions required by IC 3-11-2-10.
- 11 (c) A marking device must comply with the same disability access
- 12 standards as an electronic voting system under IC 3-11-15-13.6.
- 13 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a ballot card
- 14 used with a marking device must have either preprinted or printed by
- 15 the marking device the following:
- 16 (1) When the marking device is used for absentee voting under
- 17 IC 3-11-10-26, the circuit court clerk's signature and seal required
- 18 by IC 3-11-10-27.
- 19 (2) When the marking device is used by a voter to cast a
- 20 provisional ballot, the circuit court clerk's signature and seal
- 21 required by IC 3-11.7-1-7.
- 22 (3) A line or box for each poll clerk's initial as required by section
- 23 19 of this chapter.
- 24 (4) When the marking device is used during a primary election,
- 25 the name of the political party whose primary the voter is
- 26 participating in or the word "nonpartisan" if the voter is voting a
- 27 ballot that contains only a public question certified by the county
- 28 election board under IC 3-10-9.
- 29 (e) If the voting system produces a ballot card, the ballot card must
- 30 contain a summary ballot scan of the voter's ballot that includes all of
- 31 the following:
- 32 (1) The name or designation of each office on the voter's ballot.
- 33 (2) The name of the candidate and the candidate's political party
- 34 selected by the voter.
- 35 ~~(3) If the voter selects a straight party ticket, the name of the~~
- 36 ~~political party ticket the voter selected.~~
- 37 ~~(4)~~ (3) A description of the text of any public question or judicial
- 38 retention question on the voter's ballot that the county election
- 39 board determines reasonably conveys the content of the public
- 40 question or judicial retention question and the response the voter
- 41 selected for each question.
- 42 The ballot card may contain additional information described in



- 1 subsection (b).  
 2 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a ballot card  
 3 used with the marking device may be a different dimension or size than  
 4 other ballot cards:  
 5 (1) approved by the county election board for use in an election;  
 6 and  
 7 (2) that are not designed to be marked by the marking device.  
 8 (g) A voter verifiable paper audit trail is not a marking device.  
 9 SECTION 11. IC 3-11-13-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,  
 10 SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 11 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 11. (a) The ballot information, whether placed on  
 12 the ballot card or on the marking device, must be in the order of  
 13 arrangement provided for ballots under this section.  
 14 (b) Each county election board shall have the names of all  
 15 candidates for all elected offices, political party offices, and public  
 16 questions printed on a ballot card as provided in this chapter. The  
 17 county may:  
 18 (1) print all offices and questions on a single ballot card; and  
 19 (2) include a ballot variation code to ensure that the proper  
 20 version of a ballot is used within a precinct.  
 21 (c) Each type of ballot card must be of uniform size and of the same  
 22 quality and color of paper (except as permitted under IC 3-10-1-17).  
 23 (d) The nominees of a political party or an independent candidate  
 24 or independent ticket (described in IC 3-11-2-6) nominated by  
 25 petitioners shall be listed on the ballot with the name and device set  
 26 forth on the certification or petition. The circle containing the device  
 27 may be of any size that permits a voter to readily identify the device.  
 28 IC 3-11-2-5 applies if the certification or petition does not include a  
 29 name or device, or if the same device is selected by two (2) or more  
 30 parties or petitioners.  
 31 (e) The offices and public questions on the general election ballot  
 32 must be placed on the ballot in the order listed in IC 3-11-2-12,  
 33 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),  
 34 IC 3-11-2-12.9(c), IC 3-11-2-13(a) through IC 3-11-2-13(c),  
 35 IC 3-11-2-14(a), IC 3-11-2-14(d), and IC 3-11-2-14(e). The offices and  
 36 public questions may be listed in a continuous column **or row** either  
 37 vertically or horizontally and on a number of separate pages.  
 38 (f) The name of each office must be printed in a uniform size in bold  
 39 type. A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed  
 40 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the  
 41 first candidate:  
 42 (1) "Vote for one (1) only.", if only one (1) candidate is to be



1 elected to the office.

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

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

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

14 (2) The major political party whose candidate received the second  
15 ~~highest~~ **greatest** number of votes in the county for secretary of  
16 state **at the most recent election for secretary of state** is listed  
17 second.

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

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

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

31 (6) A space for write-in voting is placed after the candidates listed  
32 in subdivisions (1) through (5), if required by law.

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

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

39 (1) candidate; or

40 (2) ticket of candidates for:

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

42 (B) governor and lieutenant governor;



1 is independent, must be placed immediately below or beside the name  
2 of the candidate and must be printed in a uniform size and type.

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

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

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

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

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

19 A statement reading substantially as follows must be placed  
20 immediately below the name of the office and above the name of the  
21 first candidate: "Vote for not more than (insert the number of  
22 candidates to be elected) candidate(s) 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~~



1 party ticket; do not make a mark in this section and proceed to voting  
2 the ballot by office."

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

9 (n) The requirements in this section:

10 (1) do not replace; and

11 (2) are in addition to;

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

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

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

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

20 (2) the text of public questions;

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

24 SECTION 12. IC 3-11-13-14 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
25 1, 2025]. Sec. 14: (a) In partisan elections, the ballot labels must  
26 include a voting square or position where a voter may by one (1) voting  
27 mark on each card record a straight party ticket vote for all the  
28 candidates of one (1) political party; except for offices for which the  
29 voter:

30 (1) is required to cast an individual vote for a candidate under  
31 IC 3-11-7-4(b); or

32 (2) has voted individually for a candidate for any other office.

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

35 (1) there are no candidates of that political party; or

36 (2) the only candidates of the political party are for election to  
37 offices to which more than one (1) individual is to be elected and  
38 which will not be credited with a vote under IC 3-12-1-7 if a voter  
39 casts a straight party ticket.

40 SECTION 13. IC 3-11-13-22, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,  
41 SECTION 97, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
42 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 22. (a) This section applies to:



- 1 (1) a ballot card voting system; and  
 2 (2) a voting system that includes features of a ballot card voting  
 3 system and a direct record electronic voting system.
- 4 (b) Not later than seventy-four (74) days before election day, for  
 5 each county planning to use automatic tabulating machines at the next  
 6 election, VSTOP shall provide each county election board with a  
 7 randomly sorted list of unique identification numbers for the inventory  
 8 of machines in the county maintained under IC 3-11-16-4. Starting at  
 9 the top of the list, the county election board shall select machines in the  
 10 list in the order listed so that:
- 11 (1) if a machine to be selected in the list is not scheduled to be  
 12 used in the upcoming election, the selection process will move to  
 13 the next machine in the order listed;  
 14 (2) each selected machine is scheduled to be used in the  
 15 upcoming election; and  
 16 (3) the number of machines selected is not less than five percent  
 17 (5%) of the machines in the county scheduled by the county  
 18 election board to be used in the upcoming election.
- 19 (c) The county election board shall test the machines as described  
 20 in subsection (b) to ascertain that the machines will correctly count the  
 21 votes cast ~~for straight party tickets~~, for all candidates (including  
 22 write-in candidates) and on all public questions. If an individual  
 23 attending the public test requests that additional automatic tabulating  
 24 machines be tested, then the county election board shall select and test  
 25 additional machines from the list in the manner described in subsection  
 26 (b).
- 27 (d) If VSTOP does not provide the lists under subsection (b) not  
 28 later than sixty (60) days before the election, the county election board  
 29 shall establish and implement a procedure for random selection of not  
 30 less than five percent (5%) of the machines in the county to be used in  
 31 the upcoming election. The county election board shall then test the  
 32 machines selected as described in subsection (c).
- 33 (e) Not later than seven (7) days after conducting the test under  
 34 subsection (c), the county election board shall certify to the election  
 35 division that the test has been conducted in conformity with subsection  
 36 (c). The testing under subsection (c) must begin before absentee voting  
 37 begins in the office of the circuit court clerk under IC 3-11-10-26.
- 38 (f) Public notice of the time and place shall be given at least  
 39 forty-eight (48) hours before the test. The notice shall be published  
 40 once in accordance with IC 5-3-1-4.
- 41 (g) If a county election board determines that:  
 42 (1) a ballot:



1 (A) must be reprinted or corrected as provided by  
 2 IC 3-11-2-16 because of the omission of a candidate, political  
 3 party, or public question from the ballot; or  
 4 (B) is an absentee ballot that a voter is entitled to recast under  
 5 IC 3-11.5-4-2 because the absentee ballot includes a candidate  
 6 for election to office who:  
 7 (i) ceased to be a candidate; and  
 8 (ii) has been succeeded by a candidate selected under  
 9 IC 3-13-1 or IC 3-13-2; and  
 10 (2) ballots used in the test conducted under this section were not  
 11 reprinted or corrected to remove the omission of a candidate,  
 12 political party, or public question, or indicate the name of the  
 13 successor candidate;  
 14 the county election board shall conduct an additional public test  
 15 described in subsection (c) using the reprinted or corrected ballots.  
 16 Notice of the time and place of the additional test shall be given in  
 17 accordance with IC 5-14-1.5, but publication of the notice in  
 18 accordance with IC 5-3-1-4 is not required.  
 19 (h) Notwithstanding IC 3-5-4-1.7, a county election board may send  
 20 a signed form from a public test to the election division by electronic  
 21 mail or fax.  
 22 SECTION 14. IC 3-11-13-31.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,  
 23 SECTION 99, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 24 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 31.7. (a) This section is enacted to comply with  
 25 52 U.S.C. 21081 by establishing uniform and nondiscriminatory  
 26 standards to define what constitutes a vote on an optical scan voting  
 27 system.  
 28 (b) After receiving ballot cards, a voter shall, without leaving the  
 29 room, go alone into one (1) of the booths or compartments that is  
 30 unoccupied and indicate:  
 31 (1) the candidates for whom the voter desires to vote by marking  
 32 the connectable arrows, circles, ovals, or squares immediately  
 33 beside:  
 34 (A) the candidates' names; or  
 35 (B) the numbers referring to the candidates; and  
 36 (2) the voter's preference on each public question by marking the  
 37 connectable arrow, oval, or square beside:  
 38 (A) the word "yes" or "no" under the question; or  
 39 (B) the number referring to the word "yes" or "no" on the  
 40 ballot.  
 41 (c) If an election is a general or municipal election and a voter  
 42 desires to vote for all the candidates of one (1) political party, the voter



- 1 may mark:
- 2 (1) the circle enclosing the device; or
- 3 (2) the connectable arrow, circle, oval, or square described in
- 4 section 11 of this chapter;
- 5 that designates the candidates of that political party. Except as provided
- 6 by IC 3-11-7-4(b), the voter's vote shall then be counted for all the
- 7 candidates of that political party. However, if the voter marks the
- 8 circle, arrow, oval, or square of an independent ticket (described in
- 9 IC 3-11-2-6), the vote shall not be counted for any other independent
- 10 candidate on the ballot.
- 11 (d) (c) This subsection applies to a voter casting a ballot on a voting
- 12 system that includes features of both an optical scan ballot card voting
- 13 system and a direct record electronic voting system. After entering into
- 14 a booth used with the voting system, the voter shall indicate the
- 15 candidates for whom the voter desires to vote and the voter's preference
- 16 on each public question by:
- 17 (1) inserting a paper ballot or an optical scan ballot into the voting
- 18 system; or
- 19 (2) using headphones to listen to a recorded list of political
- 20 parties, candidates, and public questions.
- 21 (e) (d) A voter using a voting system described in subsection (d) (c)
- 22 may indicate the voter's selections by:
- 23 (1) touching a device on or in the squares immediately adjacent
- 24 to the name of a political party, candidate, or response to a public
- 25 question; or
- 26 (2) indicating the voter's choices by using a sip puff device that
- 27 enables the voter to indicate a choice by inhaling or exhaling.
- 28 SECTION 15. IC 3-11-14-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.115-2022,
- 29 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 30 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsections (c) and
- 31 (f), a county election board may use an approved electronic voting
- 32 system:
- 33 (1) in any election;
- 34 (2) in all or in some of the precincts within a political subdivision
- 35 holding an election; and
- 36 (3) instead of or in combination with any other voting method.
- 37 (b) A county election board may use an electronic voting system
- 38 which includes a voter verifiable paper audit trail if the voting system:
- 39 (1) otherwise complies with this chapter and IC 3-11-15; and
- 40 (2) is certified by the Indiana election commission.
- 41 (c) A county election board may not use an approved electronic
- 42 voting system purchased, leased, or otherwise acquired by the county





1 after December 31, 2019, unless the system:

2 (1) is certified by the Indiana election commission; and

3 (2) includes a voter verifiable paper audit trail.

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

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

9 (1) The name or code of the election as provided by the voting  
10 system.

11 (2) The date of the election.

12 (3) The date the voter verifiable paper audit trail was printed.

13 (4) A security code and record number specific to each paper  
14 receipt assigned by the voting system.

15 (5) The name or designation of the voter's precinct.

16 (6) The name or designation of each office on the voter's ballot.

17 (7) The name of the candidate and the designation of the  
18 candidate's political party selected by the voter.

19 ~~(8) If the voter selects a straight party ticket, the name of the  
20 political party ticket the voter selected.~~

21 ~~(9)~~ **(8)** The following information:

22 (A) A description of the text of any public question or judicial  
23 retention question on the voter's ballot that:

24 (i) contains not more than thirty (30) characters; and

25 (ii) the county election board determines reasonably conveys  
26 the content of the public question or judicial retention  
27 question.

28 (B) The response the voter selected for each question.

29 (e) The voter verifiable paper audit trail may contain additional  
30 information and instructions determined to be useful to the voter by the  
31 county election board subject to the design capabilities of the voter  
32 verifiable paper audit trail.

33 (f) This subsection applies to a county in which any direct record  
34 electronic voting system that does not include a voter verifiable paper  
35 audit trail is used for an election. A county election board shall not use  
36 a direct record electronic voting system in an election after July 1,  
37 2022, unless the county election board:

38 (1) uses a number of direct record electronic voting systems  
39 including a voter verifiable paper audit trail in the election that is  
40 equal to or greater than ten percent (10%) of the total number of  
41 direct record electronic voting systems owned, leased, or  
42 otherwise available to the county as of January 1, 2022, and as of



1 January 1 in each year thereafter;

2 (2) determines, not later than July 1, 2022, and January 1 of each  
 3 year thereafter, the minimum number of direct record electronic  
 4 voting systems including a voter verifiable paper audit trail  
 5 necessary to comply with the requirement of this subsection; and  
 6 (3) files a certification of this determination to the secretary of  
 7 state not later than August 11, 2022, and February 11 of each year  
 8 thereafter.

9 SECTION 16. IC 3-11-14-3.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,  
 10 SECTION 100, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 11 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 3.5. (a) Each county election board  
 12 shall have the names of all candidates for all elected offices, political  
 13 party offices, and public questions printed on ballot labels for use in an  
 14 electronic voting system as provided in this chapter.

15 (b) The county may:

- 16 (1) print all offices and public questions on a single ballot label;  
 17 and  
 18 (2) include a ballot variation code to ensure that the proper  
 19 version of a ballot label is used within a precinct.

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

22 (d) The nominees of a political party or an independent candidate  
 23 or independent ticket (described in IC 3-11-2-6) nominated by  
 24 petitioners must be listed on the ballot label with the name and device  
 25 set forth on the certification or petition. The circle containing the  
 26 device may be of any size that permits a voter to readily identify the  
 27 device. IC 3-11-2-5 applies if the certification or petition does not  
 28 include a name or device, or if the same device is selected by two (2)  
 29 or more parties or petitioners.

30 (e) The ballot labels must list the offices and public questions on the  
 31 general election ballot in the order listed in IC 3-11-2-12,  
 32 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),  
 33 IC 3-11-2-12.9(c), IC 3-11-2-13(a) through IC 3-11-2-13(c),  
 34 IC 3-11-2-14(a), IC 3-11-2-14(d), and IC 3-11-2-14(e). Each office and  
 35 public question may have a separate screen, or the offices and public  
 36 questions may be listed in a continuous column **or row** either vertically  
 37 or horizontally.

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

- 42 (1) "Vote for one (1) only.", if only one (1) candidate is to be



1 elected to the office.

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

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

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

14 (2) The major political party whose candidate received the second  
15 ~~highest~~ **greatest** number of votes in the county for secretary of  
16 state **at the most recent election for secretary of state** is listed  
17 second.

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

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

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

31 (6) A space for write-in voting is placed after the candidates listed  
32 in subdivisions (1) through (5), if required by law. A space for  
33 write-in voting for an office is not required if there are no  
34 declared write-in candidates for that office. However, procedures  
35 must be implemented to permit write-in voting for candidates for  
36 federal offices.

37 (7) The name of a write-in candidate may not be listed on the  
38 ballot.

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



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



1 and arranged in the order established by subsection (g) for listing  
 2 candidates under each office. The instructions described in  
 3 IC 3-11-2-10(c) for voting a straight party ticket and the statement  
 4 concerning presidential electors required under IC 3-10-4-3 must be  
 5 placed on the ballot label. The instructions for voting a straight party  
 6 ticket must include the statement: "If you do not wish to vote a straight  
 7 party ticket, press "NEXT" (or replace "NEXT" with the term used by  
 8 that voting system to permit a voter to skip a ballot screen) to continue  
 9 voting."

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

16 (o) The requirements in this section:

- 17 (1) do not replace; and
- 18 (2) are in addition to;

19 any other requirements in this title that apply to ballots for electronic  
 20 voting systems.

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

25 SECTION 17. IC 3-11-14-14.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 26 1, 2025]. Sec. 14.5: A ballot label must not include a touch sensitive  
 27 point or button to permit a voter to cast a straight party ticket for a  
 28 political party if:

- 29 (1) there are no candidates of that political party; or
- 30 (2) the only candidates of the political party are for election to  
 31 offices to which more than one (1) individual is to be elected and  
 32 which will not be credited with a vote under IC 3-12-1-7 if a voter  
 33 casts a straight party ticket.

34 SECTION 18. IC 3-11-14-23, AS AMENDED BY P.L.21-2016,  
 35 SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 36 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 23. (a) This section is enacted to comply with 52  
 37 U.S.C. 21081 by establishing uniform and nondiscriminatory standards  
 38 to define what constitutes a vote on an electronic voting system.

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



1 (1) the candidates for whom the voter desires to vote by touching  
 2 a device on or in the squares immediately above the candidates'  
 3 names;

4 (2) if the voter intends to cast a write-in vote, a write-in vote by  
 5 touching a device on or in the square immediately below the  
 6 candidates' names and printing the name of the candidate in the  
 7 window provided for write-in voting; and

8 (3) the voter's preference on each public question by touching a  
 9 device above the word "yes" or "no" under the question.

10 ~~(c) If an election is a general or municipal election and a voter~~  
 11 ~~desires to vote for all the candidates of one (1) political party or group~~  
 12 ~~of petitioners, the voter may cast a straight party ticket by touching that~~  
 13 ~~party's device. Except as provided in IC 3-11-7.5-10(b), the voter's vote~~  
 14 ~~shall then be counted for all the candidates under that name. However,~~  
 15 ~~if the voter casts a vote by touching the circle of an independent ticket~~  
 16 ~~comprised of two (2) candidates, the vote shall not be counted for any~~  
 17 ~~other independent candidate on the ballot.~~

18 ~~(c)~~ (c) As provided by 52 U.S.C. 21081, a voter casting a ballot on  
 19 an electronic voting system must be:

20 (1) permitted to verify in a private and independent manner the  
 21 votes selected by the voter before the ballot is cast and counted;

22 (2) provided the opportunity to change the ballot or correct any  
 23 error in a private and independent manner before the ballot is cast  
 24 and counted, including the opportunity to receive a replacement  
 25 ballot if the voter is otherwise unable to change or correct the  
 26 ballot; and

27 (3) notified before the ballot is cast regarding the effect of casting  
 28 multiple votes for the office and provided an opportunity to  
 29 correct the ballot before the ballot is cast and counted.

30 SECTION 19. IC 3-11-14.5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.135-2020,  
 31 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 32 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 1. (a) Not later than seventy-four (74) days before  
 33 election day, for each county planning to use an electronic voting  
 34 system at the next election, VSTOP shall provide each county election  
 35 board with a randomly sorted list of unique identification numbers for  
 36 the inventory of machines in the county maintained under  
 37 IC 3-11-16-4. Starting at the top of the list, the county election board  
 38 shall select machines in the list in the order listed so that:

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

42 (2) each selected machine is scheduled to be used in the



1           upcoming election; and

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

5           (b) The county election board shall test the machines as described  
6           in subsection (a) to ascertain that the machines will correctly count the  
7           votes cast ~~for straight party tickets~~, for all candidates (including  
8           write-in candidates) and on all public questions. If an individual  
9           attending the public test requests that additional electronic voting  
10          systems be tested, then the county election board shall select and test  
11          additional machines from the list in the manner described in subsection  
12          (a).

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

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

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

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

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

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

29           (i) ceased to be a candidate; and

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

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

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

39          SECTION 20. IC 3-12-1-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.64-2014,  
40          SECTION 68, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
41          JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 1. Subject to sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 9.5, and 13 of  
42          this chapter, the primary factor to be considered in determining a



1 voter's choice on a ballot is the intent of the voter. If the voter's intent  
 2 can be determined on the ballot or on part of the ballot, the vote shall  
 3 be counted for the affected candidate or candidates or on the public  
 4 question. However, if it is impossible to determine a voter's choice of  
 5 candidates on a part of a ballot or vote on a public question, then the  
 6 voter's vote concerning those candidates or public questions may not  
 7 be counted.

8 SECTION 21. IC 3-12-1-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.278-2019,  
 9 SECTION 137, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 10 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 5. (a) This subsection does not  
 11 apply to a ballot card voting system or an electronic voting system.  
 12 Except as provided in subsection (d), A voting mark made by a voter  
 13 on or in a voting square at the left of a candidate's name or political  
 14 party's name shall be counted as a vote for the candidate. or candidates  
 15 of the political party:

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

18 (1) on or in a circle, oval, or square; or

19 (2) to connect a connectable arrow;

20 immediately below or beside a candidate's name or political party's  
 21 name shall be counted as a vote for the candidate. or candidates of the  
 22 political party, except as provided in subsection (d):

23 (c) This subsection applies to a direct record electronic voting  
 24 system. A voting mark made by a voter touching a touch sensitive point  
 25 or button below or beside a candidate's name or political party's name  
 26 shall be counted as a vote for the candidate. or candidates of the  
 27 political party, except as provided in subsection (d):

28 (d) A voter who wishes to cast a ballot for a candidate for election  
 29 to an at-large district to which more than one (1) person may be elected  
 30 on a:

31 (1) county council;

32 (2) city common council;

33 (3) town council; or

34 (4) township board;

35 must make a voting mark for each individual candidate for whom the  
 36 voter wishes to cast a vote. A straight ticket voting mark on a paper  
 37 ballot, ballot card voting system, or electronic voting system shall not  
 38 be counted as a straight party ticket voting mark as a vote for any  
 39 candidate for an office described by this subsection:

40 SECTION 22. IC 3-12-1-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.21-2016,  
 41 SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 42 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 7. (a) This subsection applies whenever a voter:





1 (1) votes a straight party ticket; and

2 (2) votes only for one (1) or more individual candidates who are  
3 all of the same political party as the straight ticket vote.

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

6 (b) This subsection applies whenever:

7 (1) a voter has voted a straight party ticket for the candidates of  
8 one (1) political party;

9 (2) only one (1) person may be elected to an office; and

10 (3) the voter has voted for one (1) individual candidate for the  
11 office described in subdivision (2) who is:

12 (A) a candidate of a political party other than the party for  
13 which the voter voted a straight ticket; or

14 (B) an independent candidate or declared write-in candidate  
15 for the office.

16 If the voter has voted for one (1) individual candidate for the office  
17 described in subdivision (2), the individual candidate vote for that  
18 office shall be counted; the straight party ticket vote for that office may  
19 not be counted; and the straight party ticket votes for other offices on  
20 the ballot shall be counted.

21 (c) This subsection applies whenever:

22 (1) a voter has voted a straight party ticket for the candidates of  
23 one (1) political party; and

24 (2) the voter has voted for more individual candidates for the  
25 office than the number of persons to be elected to that office.

26 The individual candidate votes for that office may not be counted; the  
27 straight party ticket vote for that office may not be counted; and the  
28 straight party ticket votes for other offices on the ballot shall be  
29 counted.

30 (d) This subsection applies whenever:

31 (1) a voter has voted a straight party ticket for the candidates of  
32 one (1) political party;

33 (2) more than one (1) person may be elected to an office; and

34 (3) the voter has voted for individual candidates for the office  
35 described in subdivision (2) who are:

36 (A) independent candidates or declared write-in candidates;

37 (B) candidates of a political party other than the political party  
38 for which the voter cast a straight party ticket under  
39 subdivision (1); or

40 (C) a combination of candidates described in clauses (A) and  
41 (B).

42 The individual votes cast by the voter for the office for the independent



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

8 (e) This subsection applies whenever:

9 (1) a voter has voted a straight party ticket for the candidates of  
 10 one (1) political party;

11 (2) more than one (1) person may be elected to an office; and

12 (3) the voter has voted for individual candidates for the office  
 13 described in subdivision (2) who are:

14 (A) independent candidates; declared write-in candidates; or  
 15 candidates of a political party other than the political party for  
 16 which the voter cast a straight party ticket under subdivision  
 17 (1); and

18 (B) candidates of the same political party for which the voter  
 19 cast a straight party ticket under subdivision (1).

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

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

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

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



1 SECTION 23. IC 3-12-1-7.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.21-2016,  
 2 SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 3 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 7.5. (a) If a voter votes for one (1) individual  
 4 candidate for an office for which only one (1) person may be elected  
 5 and also writes in the name of another candidate for the same office,  
 6 neither vote may be counted.

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

13 (c) If a voter votes an individual ~~or a straight party~~ vote for a  
 14 candidate for an office and also writes in the name of the same  
 15 candidate for the same office, only one (1) vote for that candidate may  
 16 be counted.

17 SECTION 24. IC 3-12-1-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
 18 2025]. Sec. 8: (a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (b), a voting mark~~  
 19 ~~made by a voter on or in a circle containing a political party device~~  
 20 ~~shall be counted as a vote for each candidate of that political party on~~  
 21 ~~that ballot.~~

22 (b) ~~A voter who wishes to cast a ballot for a candidate for election~~  
 23 ~~to an at-large district to which more than one (1) person may be elected~~  
 24 ~~on a:~~

- 25 (1) ~~county council;~~
- 26 (2) ~~city common council;~~
- 27 (3) ~~town council; or~~
- 28 (4) ~~township board;~~

29 ~~must make a voting mark for each individual candidate for whom the~~  
 30 ~~voter wishes to cast a vote. A voting mark on or in a circle containing~~  
 31 ~~a political party device shall not be counted as a straight party ticket~~  
 32 ~~voting mark as a vote for any candidate for an office described by this~~  
 33 ~~subsection.~~

34 SECTION 25. IC 3-12-1-14 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 35 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 14. (a) This section  
 36 does not apply to a vote

37 (1) ~~cast for President or Vice President of the United States under~~  
 38 ~~IC 3-10-4-6. or~~

39 (2) ~~described by section 15 of this chapter.~~

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



1           SECTION 26. IC 3-12-1-15 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
2           2025]. Sec. 15. (a) This section does not apply to a candidate for an  
3           at-large office of a county council, city common council, town council,  
4           or township board, if those offices appear on a ballot.  
5           (b) This section applies to a vote cast for one (1) straight party ticket  
6           that includes a candidate for election to office who:  
7           (1) ceases to be a candidate; and  
8           (2) is succeeded by a candidate selected under IC 3-13-1 or  
9           IC 3-13-2.  
10          (c) A vote cast in the election for the original nominee is considered  
11          a vote cast for the successor.

