

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 44  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 14, 2016; January 24, 2017,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;  
 1-4 February 21, 2017, reported favorably by the following vote:  
 1-5 Yeas 8, Nays 0; February 21, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to petition requirements for an application for a place on  
 1-20 the general primary election ballot for certain judicial offices.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 172.021, Election Code, is amended by  
 1-23 adding Subsections (e) and (g) to read as follows:

1-24 (e) A candidate for an office specified by Section  
 1-25 172.024(a)(8), (10), or (12), or for justice of the peace in a  
 1-26 county with a population of more than 1.5 million, who chooses to  
 1-27 pay the filing fee must also accompany the application with a  
 1-28 petition for a place on the primary ballot as a candidate for  
 1-29 judicial office that complies with the requirements prescribed for  
 1-30 the petition authorized by Subsection (b), except that the minimum  
 1-31 number of signatures that must appear on the petition required by  
 1-32 this subsection is 250. If the candidate chooses to file the  
 1-33 petition authorized by Subsection (b) in lieu of the filing fee, the  
 1-34 minimum number of signatures required for that petition is  
 1-35 increased by 250. Signatures on a petition filed under this  
 1-36 subsection or Subsection (b) by a candidate covered by this  
 1-37 subsection may not be obtained on the grounds of a county courthouse  
 1-38 or courthouse annex.

1-39 (g) A candidate for the office of chief justice or justice,  
 1-40 supreme court, or presiding judge or judge, court of criminal  
 1-41 appeals, who chooses to pay the filing fee must also accompany the  
 1-42 application with a petition that complies with the requirements  
 1-43 prescribed for a petition authorized by Subsection (b), except that  
 1-44 the minimum number of signatures that must appear on the petition  
 1-45 required by this subsection is 50 from each court of appeals  
 1-46 district.

1-47 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
 1-48 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
 1-49 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
 1-50 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
 1-51 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

1-52 \* \* \* \* \*