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TESTIMONY OF THE
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 438
RELATING TO ARRANGEMENT OF CANDIDATE NAMES ON BALLOTS

February 5, 2019

Chair Lee and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on House Bill No. 438. The purpose of this bill is to require candidate names to be randomized on individual ballots and randomly rotated across precincts.

We would accomplish the purpose of this measure by randomly selecting a letter of the alphabet for each district/precinct (ballot type) to be the first letter to organize the candidate names. For example, if the letter "H" was randomly selected by lot, candidates whose last name started with an "H" would be listed first, and subsequent names will follow alphabetically (e.g., "H", "I", "J").

We would also note that the randomly selected letter should only be applied to the first letter of the last name and not modify additional alphabetizing. We use the alphabetical organization for proofing the ballots to ensure all candidates are properly listed, which corresponds to the voting position for the vote counting system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 438.

HB-438

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 12:11:49 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/5/2019 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

It should always be alphabetical. Maybe you people need to go back to School to learn this. I can not belive how STUPIED you People can be. Do things right by the people or you will be removed.