



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 528**

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**Chairperson:** Ray Aguilar  
**Committee:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Date of Hearing:** March 1, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 528 makes several changes to the Election Act.

The first change eliminates counting boards. Counting boards were appointed for a precinct when paper ballots were manually counted. Since ballots are no longer manually counted because of the new voting equipment, counting boards are no longer necessary. Similarly, language regarding paper ballots is eliminated because all counties are now using optical-scan ballots.

The bill also requires candidates to be affiliated with a political party before the first Friday in December prior to the statewide primary election in order to be eligible as a write-in candidate.

If the ballot for early voting has not been printed in sufficient time, the election commissioner or county clerk will issue a special ballot at least 60 days prior to the an election to each qualified voter requesting a special ballot. The current deadline is 57 days prior to the election. This change is made to comply with federal law.

Finally, the bill eliminates language allowing partial returns to be delivered to the centralized location after the opening of the polls if at least twenty-five ballots have been cast since any prior delivery. Language allowing an election commissioner or county clerk to develop a procedure for picking up and counting ballots during election day is also eliminated.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Ray Aguilar**