

## The Informed Voter Act of 2025

The Informed Voter Act of 2025 or Bill ORU-008 is a mock bill that hopes to inform and change how people vote in the State of Oklahoma by getting rid of straight party voting. Straight party voting is when a voter can simply pick one singular party to vote for and their vote automatically goes to every candidate in that party. For example, if you check “Democrat” or “Republican,” it would fill in every race for that party. This bill would remove that shortcut completely. Under this act, voters would need to make a choice for each race and ballot measure individually. That means instead of one click or one checkmark for a whole party, people would have to go through and decide who they want to support for governor, senator, representative, sheriff, etc; one at a time.

The idea behind this is to make sure voters are educated and informed on who exactly they are voting for. This bill gives the power to the State Election Board to make the rules and procedures for how to make this change happen however they see necessary. The Board would ensure that voting ballots are following both state and federal laws. If this bill passes it will then move to the Senate where it will be debated again then finally be given to the governor for signing if it passes through the Senate and the House.

In conclusion, this bill is advocating for informed voting and allows people to focus on the individuals rather than the party they represent. This promotes more independent thinking and allows for constituents to be fully informed and knowledgeable on who exactly is representing them at the civic level. All in all the Informed Voter Act is a step in the right direction toward an educated country. I believe that this bill should pass and follow all the way though until it has the ability to be signed by the governor and be passed into law.