

1 **INTEGRITY OF ELECTION RESULTS**

2 **AMENDMENTS**

3 2005 GENERAL SESSION

4 STATE OF UTAH

5 **Sponsor: John Dougall**

6

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill amends election law and the duties of the chief election officer to require that
10 voting equipment produces an auditable record of votes cast.

11 **Highlighted Provisions:**

12 This bill:

13 ▶ amends the Election Code to require that voting equipment be capable of producing
14 an unalterable, auditable record of votes cast in order to be certified for use;

15 ▶ amends the duties of the chief election officer to require that any voting equipment
16 purchased be capable of producing an unalterable, auditable record of votes cast;

17 ▶ amends the Election Code to require the lieutenant governor to establish a Voting
18 Equipment Selection Committee to provide recommendations and information on
19 new voting equipment systems before new voting systems are purchased;

20 ▶ amends the Election Code to establish membership and reimbursement
21 requirements for the Voting Equipment Selection Committee;

22 ▶ amends the Election Code to require the lieutenant governor to provide the public
23 with an opportunity to review and comment on new voting equipment systems
24 before new voting equipment systems are purchased;

25 ▶ amends the Election Code and the duties of the chief election officer to permit the
26 use and purchase of automatic voting equipment that permits a voter, at a time
27 subsequent to casting a vote, to verify that the vote was properly recorded, provided



28 that the voter's rights are preserved; and

29 ▶ amends the Election Code to require that any automatic voting equipment will
30 permit each voter to verify and correct the voter's selections before the ballot is cast.

31 **Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

32 None

33 **Other Special Clauses:**

34 This bill provides an immediate effective date.

35 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

36 AMENDS:

37 **20A-5-302**, as last amended by Chapter 113, Laws of Utah 2002

38 **63-55-220**, as last amended by Chapter 37, Laws of Utah 2004

39 **67-1a-2**, as last amended by Chapters 133 and 176, Laws of Utah 2002

40 ENACTS:

41 **20A-5-402.7**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



43 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

44 Section 1. Section **20A-5-302** is amended to read:

45 **20A-5-302. Automated voting system.**

46 (1) Any county or municipal legislative body or special district board may:

47 (a) adopt, experiment with, acquire by purchase, lease, or otherwise, or abandon any
48 automated voting system that meets the requirements of this section; and

49 (b) use that system in any election, in all or a part of the voting precincts within its
50 boundaries, or in combination with paper ballots.

51 (2) (a) Each automated voting system shall:

52 (i) provide for voting in secrecy, except in the case of voters who have received
53 assistance as authorized by Section 20A-3-108;

54 (ii) permit each voter at any election to:

55 (A) vote for all persons and offices for whom and for which that voter is lawfully
56 entitled to vote;

57 (B) vote for as many persons for an office as that voter is entitled to vote; and

58 (C) vote for or against any ballot proposition upon which that voter is entitled to vote;

59 (iii) permit each voter, at presidential elections, by one mark or punch to vote for the
60 candidates of that party for president, vice president, and for their presidential electors;

61 (iv) permit each voter, at any regular general election, to vote for all the candidates of
62 one registered political party by making one mark or punch;

63 (v) permit each voter to scratch vote;

64 (vi) at elections other than primary elections, permit each voter to vote for the
65 nominees of one or more parties and for independent candidates;

66 (vii) at primary elections:

67 (A) permit each voter to vote for candidates of the political party of his choice; and

68 (B) reject any votes cast for candidates of another party;

69 (viii) prevent the voter from voting for the same person more than once for the same
70 office;

71 (ix) permit each voter to verify and correct the voter's selections before the voter casts
72 the ballot;

73 [~~(ix)~~] (x) include automatic tabulating equipment that rejects choices recorded on a
74 voter's ballot if the number of the voter's recorded choices is greater than the number which the
75 voter is entitled to vote for the office or on the measure;

76 [~~(x)~~] (xi) be of durable construction, suitably designed so that it may be used safely,
77 efficiently, and accurately in the conduct of elections and counting ballots;

78 [~~(xi)~~] (xii) when properly operated, record correctly and count accurately each vote
79 cast; [~~and~~]

80 (xiii) produce an unalterable record of each vote recorded by the voting equipment that
81 would permit a third party to inspect and verify the votes cast for the purposes of auditing and
82 insuring the integrity of the elections process; and

83 [~~(xii)~~] (xiv) meet the requirements of Section 20A-5-402.5.

84 (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, the election officers shall
85 ensure that the ballots to be counted by means of electronic or electromechanical devices are of
86 a size, layout, texture, and printed in a type of ink or combination of inks that will be suitable
87 for use in the counting devices in which they are intended to be placed.

88 (c) The lieutenant governor may purchase an automated voting system that has the
89 ability to permit an individual voter, at any time after casting a ballot and before the board of

90 canvassers certifies the election results, to verify that the voter's vote was properly recorded,
91 provided that the voter's rights, including the right to a secret ballot, are preserved.

92 Section 2. Section **20A-5-402.7** is enacted to read:

93 **20A-5-402.7. Voting equipment selection committee.**

94 (1) As used in this section, "new voting equipment system" means voting equipment
95 that is operated in a materially different way or that functions in a materially different way than
96 the equipment being replaced.

97 (2) Before selecting or purchasing a new voting equipment system, the lieutenant
98 governor shall:

99 (a) appoint a Voting Equipment Selection Committee; and

100 (b) ensure that the committee includes persons having experience in:

101 (i) election procedures and administration;

102 (ii) computer technology;

103 (iii) data security;

104 (iv) auditing; and

105 (v) access for persons with disabilities.

106 (3) (a) (i) A member of the committee who is not a government employee shall receive
107 no compensation or benefits for the member's services, but may receive per diem and expenses
108 incurred in the performance of the member's official duties at the rates established by the
109 Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

110 (ii) A member may decline to receive per diem and expenses for the member's services.

111 (b) (i) A state government officer or employee member who does not receive salary,
112 per diem, or expenses from the member's agency for the member's service may receive per
113 diem and expenses incurred in the performance of the member's official duties at the rates
114 established by the Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

115 (ii) A state government officer or employee member may decline to receive per diem
116 for the member's service.

117 (4) The lieutenant governor shall select a chair from the committee membership.

118 (5) The lieutenant governor may fill any vacancies that occur on the committee.

119 (6) The lieutenant governor's office shall provide staffing for the committee.

120 (7) The Voting Equipment Selection Committee shall:

121 (a) evaluate new voting equipment systems proposed for purchase by the state; and
122 (b) provide information and recommendations to assist the lieutenant governor with the
123 purchase of new voting equipment systems.

124 (8) The lieutenant governor may designate individuals, including committee members,
125 to inspect and review proprietary software as part of an evaluation of new voting equipment
126 systems under consideration for purchase.

127 (9) Before making any selection or purchase, the lieutenant governor shall provide for a
128 period of public review and comment on new voting equipment systems under consideration
129 for purchase by the state.

130 (10) The committee shall submit an annual report to the Legislative Management
131 Committee and the governor by November 30 of each year.

132 Section 3. Section **63-55-220** is amended to read:

133 **63-55-220. Repeal dates, Title 20A.**

134 Section 20A-5-402.7, Voting Equipment Selection Committee, is repealed January 1,
135 2007.

136 Section 4. Section **67-1a-2** is amended to read:

137 **67-1a-2. Duties enumerated.**

138 (1) The lieutenant governor shall:

139 (a) perform duties delegated by the governor, including assignments to serve in any of
140 the following capacities:

141 (i) as the head of any one department, if so qualified, with the consent of the Senate,
142 and, upon appointment at the pleasure of the governor and without additional compensation;

143 (ii) as the chairperson of any cabinet group organized by the governor or authorized by
144 law for the purpose of advising the governor or coordinating intergovernmental or

145 interdepartmental policies or programs;

146 (iii) as liaison between the governor and the state Legislature to coordinate and
147 facilitate the governor's programs and budget requests;

148 (iv) as liaison between the governor and other officials of local, state, federal, and
149 international governments or any other political entities to coordinate, facilitate, and protect the
150 interests of the state;

151 (v) as personal advisor to the governor, including advice on policies, programs,

152 administrative and personnel matters, and fiscal or budgetary matters; and
153 (vi) as chairperson or member of any temporary or permanent boards, councils,
154 commissions, committees, task forces, or other group appointed by the governor;
155 (b) serve on all boards and commissions in lieu of the governor, whenever so
156 designated by the governor;
157 (c) serve as the chief election officer of the state as required by Subsection (2);
158 (d) keep custody of the Great Seal of Utah;
159 (e) keep a register of, and attest, the official acts of the governor;
160 (f) affix the Great Seal, with an attestation, to all official documents and instruments to
161 which the official signature of the governor is required; and
162 (g) furnish a certified copy of all or any part of any law, record, or other instrument
163 filed, deposited, or recorded in the office of the lieutenant governor to any person who requests
164 it and pays the fee.
165 (2) (a) As the chief election officer, the lieutenant governor shall:
166 (i) exercise general supervisory authority over all elections;
167 (ii) exercise direct authority over the conduct of elections for federal, state, and
168 multicounty officers and statewide or multicounty ballot propositions and any recounts
169 involving those races;
170 (iii) assist county clerks in unifying the election ballot;
171 (iv) prepare election information for the public and make that information available to
172 the news media;
173 (v) receive and answer election questions and maintain an election file on opinions
174 received from the attorney general;
175 (vi) maintain election returns and statistics;
176 (vii) certify to the governor the names of those persons who have received the highest
177 number of votes for any office; [~~and~~]
178 (viii) ensure that all voting equipment purchased by the state complies with the
179 requirements of Subsection 20A-5-302(2) and Title 20A, Chapter 5, Part 4, Election Officer's
180 Duties; and
181 [~~viii~~] (ix) perform other election duties as provided in Title 20A, Election Code.
182 (b) As chief election officer, the lieutenant governor may not assume the

183 responsibilities assigned to the county clerks, city recorders, town clerks, or other local election
184 officials by Title 20A, Election Code.

185 Section 5. **Effective date.**

186 If approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, this bill takes effect
187 upon approval by the governor, or the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah
188 Constitution Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's signature, or in the case of a veto,
189 the date of veto override.

Legislative Review Note

as of 1-17-05 8:55 AM

Based on a limited legal review, this legislation has not been determined to have a high probability of being held unconstitutional.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Fiscal Note
Bill Number HB0211

Integrity of Election Results Amendments

26-Jan-05

8:44 AM

State Impact

Provisions of this bill do not impose additional fiscal costs to the state, or its political subdivisions. No fiscal impact.

Individual and Business Impact

No fiscal impact.

Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst