

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 971

Introduced by Assembly Member Krekorian

February 26, 2009

An act relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 971, as introduced, Krekorian. Elections: voting system.

Existing law requires the Secretary of State to study and adopt regulations governing the use of voting machines, voting devices, and vote tabulating devices.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation requiring the Secretary of State to develop precise standards for the design of a voting system, including specified standards and specifications.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact
- 2 legislation for the following purposes:
- 3 (a) To require that the Secretary of State develop precise
- 4 standards for a voting system design in order to insure accurate
- 5 tabulation of voter choices and to make the operation of elections
- 6 consistent throughout the state.
- 7 (b) To require, among other standards and specifications, the
- 8 following design specifications for the voting system:

- 1 (1) A digital file format for storing ballot information and voter
2 choices on direct record electric voting machines that uses
3 encryption protocols specified in the National Institute for
4 Standards and Technology computer security documentation (FIPS
5 200, SP 800-111).
- 6 (2) A standard design for voter cards with electronic storage
7 media to store ballot information and voter choices in a digital
8 form.
- 9 (3) A standard design for paper ballots that can be adapted for
10 use statewide and specifications for ballot-counting machine
11 manufacturers to modify or construct their ballot-counting devices
12 to read the paper ballot design.