

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 877

Introduced by Assembly Member Bocanegra

February 22, 2013

An act to amend Section 19251 of the Elections Code, relating to voting systems.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 877, as introduced, Bocanegra. Direct recording electronic voting systems.

Existing law prohibits the Secretary of State from approving, and prohibits a city or county from contracting for or purchasing, a direct recording electronic voting system, defined as a voting system that records a vote electronically and does not require or permit the voter to record his or her vote directly onto a tangible ballot. Existing law defines the term “voter verified paper audit trail” as a component of a direct recording electronic voting system that prints a contemporaneous paper record copy of each electronic ballot and allows each voter to confirm his or her selections before the voter casts his or her ballot.

This bill would revise the definition of “voter verified paper audit trail” to instead mean a component of a direct recording electronic voting system that prints a synchronous paper record facsimile of each electronic ballot and allows each voter to confirm his or her selections before the voter casts his or her ballot.

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. Section 19251 of the Elections Code is amended
2 to read:

3 19251. For purposes of this article, the following terms shall
4 have the following meanings:

5 (a) “Accessible” means that the information provided on the
6 paper record copy from the voter verified paper audit trail
7 mechanism is provided or conveyed to voters via both a visual and
8 a nonvisual method, such as through an audio component.

9 (b) “Direct recording electronic voting system” means a voting
10 system that records a vote electronically and does not require or
11 permit the voter to record his or her vote directly onto a tangible
12 ballot.

13 (c) “Voter verified paper audit trail” means a component of a
14 direct recording electronic voting system that prints a
15 ~~contemporaneous~~ *synchronous* paper record ~~copy~~ *facsimile* of each
16 electronic ballot and allows each voter to confirm his or her
17 selections before the voter casts his or her ballot.

18 (d) “Federal qualification” means the system has been certified,
19 if applicable, by means of qualification testing by a Nationally
20 Recognized Test Laboratory and has met or exceeded the minimum
21 requirements set forth in the Performance and Text Standards for
22 Punch Card, Mark Sense, and Direct Recording Electronic Voting
23 Systems, or in any successor voluntary standard document,
24 developed and promulgated by the Federal Election Commission,
25 the Election Assistance Commission, or the National Institute of
26 Standards and Technology.

27 (e) “Paper record copy” means an auditable document printed
28 by a voter verified paper audit trail component that corresponds
29 to the voter’s electronic vote and lists the contests on the ballot
30 and the voter’s selections for those contests. A paper record copy
31 is not a ballot.

32 (f) “Parallel monitoring” means the testing of a randomly
33 selected sampling of voting equipment on election day designed
34 to simulate actual election conditions to confirm that the system
35 is registering votes accurately.

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