

By: White

H.B. No. 1708

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an electronic voting system that produces a voter-verifiable paper record.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 129, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 129.003 to read as follows:

Sec. 129.003. AUDITABLE VOTING SYSTEM. (a) In this section:

(1) "Auditable voting system" means a voting system that produces a voter-verifiable paper record.

(2) "Voter-verifiable paper record" means a paper record of an electronically generated ballot that may be:

(A) reviewed and corrected by the voter at the time the ballot is cast; and

(B) used for a recount in an election in which electronically generated ballots were used.

(b) Beginning September 1, 2021, an authority of a political subdivision may not purchase a voting system consisting of direct recording electronic voting machines that is not an auditable voting system.

(c) Beginning September 1, 2023, a voting system consisting of direct recording electronic voting machines may not be used in an election unless the system is an auditable voting system.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.