

Proposed law provides these expenses cannot exceed five thousand dollars.

Present law provides all voting systems or system components shall be procured by the secretary of state on the basis of a competitive request for proposal or solicitation of public bids in accordance with specifications in present law that may require tests and examinations of operations of the voting system or system components.

Proposed law provides that the secretary of state must procure all voting systems or system components in accordance with specifications developed by a commission established in proposed law that mandate testing and examination of the voting system or system components.

Proposed law creates the Voting System Commission to analyze available voting systems and issue a report to the secretary of state directing him on which type of voting system to solicit bids or requests for proposals.

Proposed law creates the Voting System Proposal Evaluation Committee to investigate and test the voting systems that meet the qualifications established by the Voting System Commission and determine which voting system to suggest the secretary of state purchase in coordination with the office of state procurement.

Present law provides that the secretary of state shall determine the sufficiency of voting machines and absentee by mail and early voting counting equipment necessary to conduct an election at his discretion.

Proposed law requires the secretary of state to evaluate the sufficiency of this equipment annually in consultation with the Voting System Commission.

Present law provides that the secretary of state may utilize any procedure necessary to accommodate the use of paging direct record electronic voting machines for voting where possible.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 18:18(A)(7), 1351(13), 1353(B), (C)(intro para) and (C)(2), and (D), 1361, 1362(A), and 1364(A); adds R.S. 18:1362.1 and 1362.2 and 36:744(O) and (P); repeals R.S. 18:553.1, 1351(5), and 1365)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to the original bill

1. Specifies the minimum and maximum number of experts appointed by the secretary of state to assist him with examination of voting systems and provides for their

expenses.

2. Revises membership of the Voting System Technology Commission.
3. Provides that the secretary of state shall convene the initial meeting of the Voting System Technology Commission.
4. Provides that the Department of State and office of state procurement shall provide staff and resources to the Voting System Technology Commission.
5. Removes the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget and office of technology services from the list of recipients of the Voting Systems Technology Commission's report.
6. Renames the Voting System Technology Proposal Review Committee as the Voting System Technology Proposal Evaluation Committee.
7. Revises membership of the Voting System Technology Proposal Evaluation Committee.
8. Removes requirement that no more than two members of the Voting System Technology Proposal Evaluation Committee shall be registered members of the same political party.
9. Changes the effective date of the bill from August 1, 2021, to upon signature of the governor.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Changes names of Voting System Technology Commission and Voting System Technology Proposal Evaluation Committee to Voting System Commission and Voting System Proposal Evaluation Committee.
2. Increases the limit on expenses for the services of experts assisting the secretary of state with vendor certification.
3. Allows the secretary of state to obtain replacement parts for voting systems currently under contract from the contractor.
4. Revises membership of the Voting System Commission and Voting System Proposal Evaluation Committee.
5. Specifies that a challenge to the determination of the Voting System Commission will not be sustained under Title VI of the Procurement Code.

6. Removes requirement that the secretary of state must accept the proposal submitted by the Voting System Proposal Evaluation Committee.