

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1568

4
5 By: Representative S. Meeks
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CREATE A STUDY OF THE USE OF CERTAIN
9 ELECTION TECHNOLOGY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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12 TO CREATE A STUDY OF THE USE OF CERTAIN
13 ELECTION TECHNOLOGY.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative study of
20 and report on the use of certain election technology – Purpose – Scope –
21 Requirements.

22 (a)(1) The House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs
23 and the Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs shall
24 meet jointly to conduct a study of election technology, including without
25 limitation the use of biometric data and ballot tracking.

26 (2) The Chair of the House Committee on State Agencies and
27 Governmental Affairs and the Chair of the Senate Committee on State Agencies
28 and Governmental Affairs may invite the House Committee on City, County, and
29 Local Affairs and the Senate Committee on City, County, and Local Affairs to
30 meet with the House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs and
31 the Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs for purposes
32 of the study required under this section.

33 (b)(1) The purpose of the study required under this section is to
34 study the possible use of certain election technology to increase
35 transparency and security.

36 (2) The study required under this section shall include without



1 limitation:

2 (A) An assessment of the potential use of biometric data
 3 for elections, including without limitation the voluntary use of fingerprints
 4 and facial recognition technology;

5 (B) An examination of the procedures and changes necessary
 6 to allow for ballot tracking, including without limitation the voluntary use
 7 of ballot numbers to allow voters to track their ballots and ensure their
 8 votes are recorded correctly;

9 (C) An assessment of the potential use of mobile polling
 10 stations; and

11 (D) Any other election technologies the House Committee on
 12 State Agencies and Governmental Affairs and the Senate Committee on State
 13 Agencies and Governmental Affairs determine should be studied to increase
 14 election transparency and security.

15 (c) The Secretary of State shall assist the House Committee on State
 16 Agencies and Governmental Affairs and the Senate Committee on State Agencies
 17 and Governmental Affairs with any information needed to complete the study
 18 required under this section.

19 (d) Joint meetings for purposes of conducting the study required under
 20 this section shall be held at the call of the Chair of the House Committee on
 21 State Agencies and Governmental Affairs and the Chair of the Senate Committee
 22 on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

23 (e) On or before November 30, 2022, the House Committee on State
 24 Agencies and Governmental Affairs and the Senate Committee on State Agencies
 25 and Governmental Affairs shall submit to the Legislative Council a final
 26 written report of their activities, findings, and recommendations with regard
 27 to the study required under this section, including without limitation:

28 (1) Findings on the election technology the state should adopt
 29 to increase transparency and security; and

30 (2) Recommended draft legislation to address the findings of the
 31 study, including any recommended legislation.

32 (f) The study required under this section shall be complete upon
 33 submission of the final written report to the Legislative Council required
 34 under subsection (e) of this section.

35 **APPROVED: 3/23/21**

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