

1 AN ACT relating to elections.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 117.001 is amended to read as follows:

4 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 5 (1) "Audit log" means a detailed record of all actions and events that have occurred on  
6 the voting system, including:
- 7 (a) Log-in attempts with username and time stamp;
  - 8 (b) Election definition and setup;
  - 9 (c) Ballot preparation and results processing;
  - 10 (d) Diagnostics of any type; and
  - 11 (e) Error and warning messages and operator response;
- 12 (2) "Automatic tabulating equipment" means apparatus necessary to automatically  
13 examine and count votes as designated on ballots and data processing machines  
14 which can be used for counting ballots and tabulating results;
- 15 (3) "Ballot" or "official ballot" means the official presentation of offices and candidates  
16 to be voted for, including write-in candidates, and all public questions submitted for  
17 determination, and shall include a voting machine ballot, a paper ballot, an absentee  
18 ballot, a federal provisional ballot, a federal provisional absentee ballot, or a  
19 supplemental paper ballot which has been authorized for the use of voters in any  
20 primary, regular election, or special election by the Secretary of State or the county  
21 clerk;
- 22 (4) "Ballot box" means any box, bag, or other container that can be locked, sealed, or  
23 otherwise rendered tamper-resistant, for receiving ballots;
- 24 (5) "Ballot marking device" means any approved device for marking a ballot which will  
25 enable the ballot to be tabulated manually or by means of automatic tabulating  
26 equipment;
- 27 (6) "Election" or "elections" means any primary, regular election, or special election;

- 1 (7) "E-poll book" means an electronic device capable of holding a file of voter data  
2 and related information for use in identifying registered voters prior to a voter's  
3 receiving or casting a ballot, and allowing a voter to electronically sign in on an  
4 electronic registered voter roster in lieu of signing a paper registered voter roster;
- 5 (8) "Federal provisional voter" means a person:
- 6 (a) Who does not appear to be registered to vote;
- 7 (b) Whose name does not appear on the precinct roster;
- 8 (c) Who has not provided proof of identification to the precinct election officer  
9 before voting in a federal election; and
- 10 (d) Who elects to proceed with voting a federal provisional ballot under KRS  
11 117.229;
- 12 ~~(9)~~~~(8)~~ "Federal provisional ballot" or "federal provisional absentee ballot" means  
13 ballots which have been authorized by the Secretary of State or the county clerk to  
14 be used by federal provisional voters in any federal primary or election;
- 15 ~~(10)~~~~(9)~~ "Inner envelope" or "secrecy envelope" means the envelope provided to the  
16 voter with a ballot into which the voter shall place his or her voted ballot;
- 17 ~~(11)~~~~(10)~~ "Political group" has the same meaning as in KRS 118.015;
- 18 ~~(12)~~~~(11)~~ "Political organization" has the same meaning as in KRS 118.015;
- 19 ~~(13)~~(12) "Precinct ballot counter" means an automatic tabulating device used at the  
20 precinct to tabulate and process ballots;
- 21 ~~(14)~~~~(13)~~ "Proof of identification" means a document that was issued by:
- 22 (a) The United States or the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the document  
23 contains:
- 24 1. The name of the individual to whom the document was issued; and  
25 2. A photograph of the individual to whom the document was issued;
- 26 (b) The United States Department of Defense, a branch of the uniformed services,  
27 the Merchant Marine, or the Kentucky National Guard, and the document

1 contains:

2 1. The name of the individual to whom the document was issued; and

3 2. A photograph of the individual to whom the document was issued;

4 (c) A public or private college, university, or postgraduate technical or  
5 professional school located within the United States, and the document

6 contains:

7 1. The name of the individual to whom the document was issued; and

8 2. A photograph of the individual to whom the document was issued; or

9 (d) Any city government, county government, urban-county government, charter  
10 county government, consolidated local government, or unified local  
11 government, which is located within this state, and the document contains:

12 1. The name of the individual to whom the document was issued; and

13 2. A photograph of the individual to whom the document was issued;

14 ~~(15)~~~~(14)~~ "Risk-limiting audit" means an audit protocol that makes use of statistical  
15 principles and methods and is designed to limit to acceptable levels the risk of  
16 certifying a preliminary election outcome that constitutes an incorrect outcome;

17 ~~(16)~~~~(15)~~ "Voting booth" or "ballot completion area" means an area in which a voter  
18 casts his or her vote or completes his or her ballot which is designed to ensure the  
19 secrecy of the vote;

20 ~~(17)~~~~(16)~~ "Vote center" means a consolidated precinct of the county;

21 ~~(18)~~~~(17)~~ "Voting equipment" means any physical component of a voting system and  
22 includes voting machines where voting machines are in operation;

23 ~~(19)~~~~(18)~~ "Voting machine" or "machine":

24 (a) Means a part of a voting system that consists of:

25 ~~1.~~~~(a)~~ A direct recording electronic voting machine that:

26 ~~a.~~~~(1.)~~ Records votes by means of a ballot display provided with  
27 mechanical or electro-operated components that may be actuated

- 1 by the voter;
- 2 **b.**~~[2.]~~Processes the data by means of a computer program;
- 3 **c.**~~[3.]~~Records voting data and ballot images in internal and external
- 4 memory components; and
- 5 **d.**~~[4.]~~Produces a tabulation of the voting data stored in a removable
- 6 memory component and on a printed copy; or
- 7 **2.**~~[(b)]~~ One (1) or more electronic devices that operate independently or as
- 8 a combination of a ballot marking device and an electronic or automatic
- 9 vote tabulation device; ***and***

10 ***(b) Does not include an e-poll book;***

11 ***(20)***~~[(19)]~~ "Voting system" ~~[(means)]~~:

- 12 (a) ***Means*** the total combination of physical, mechanical, electromechanical, or
- 13 electronic equipment, including the software, hardware, firmware, and
- 14 documentation required to program, control, and support that equipment, that
- 15 is used to:
- 16 1. Define ballots;
- 17 2. Cast and count votes;
- 18 3. Report or display election results; and
- 19 4. Maintain and produce any audit trail information;~~[(and)]~~
- 20 (b) ***Includes*** the practices and associated documentation used to:
- 21 1. Identify system components and versions of those components;
- 22 2. Test the system during its development and maintenance;
- 23 3. Maintain records of system errors and defects;
- 24 4. Determine specific system changes to be made to a system after the
- 25 initial qualification of the system;~~[(and)]~~
- 26 5. Make available any materials to the voter, such as notices, instructions,
- 27 forms, or paper ballots; and

1        (c) Does not include an e-poll book; and

2        (21)~~(20)~~ "Voter-verified paper audit trail" means a contemporaneous paper record of a  
3        ballot printed for the voter to confirm his or her votes before the voter casts his or  
4        her ballot that:

- 5        (a) Allows the voter to verify the voter's ballot choices before the casting of the  
6        voter's ballot;
- 7        (b) Is not retained by the voter;
- 8        (c) Does not contain individual voter information;
- 9        (d) Is produced on paper that is sturdy, clean, and resistant to degradation; and
- 10       (e) Is readable in a manner that makes the voter's ballot choices obvious to the  
11       voter or any person without the use of computer or electronic code.

12       ➔Section 2. KRS 117.025 is amended to read as follows:

13       (1) The State Board of Elections shall appoint an executive director, who shall be the  
14       chief administrative officer for the board. The board shall also appoint an assistant  
15       director, who shall be of a different political party than the director. The salaries of  
16       the director and the assistant director shall be set by the board.

17       (2) The State Board of Elections shall employ, on a bipartisan basis, a staff sufficient to  
18       carry out the duties assigned to the board, including legal counsel and a training  
19       officer to provide assistance to the county clerks and the county boards of elections  
20       in their training of precinct election officers.

21       (3) The board shall:

- 22       (a) Maintain a complete roster of all qualified registered voters within the state by  
23       county and precinct, and institute appropriate safeguards to ensure that there is  
24       no inappropriate use of the voter registration roster. State and local election  
25       officials, including the Secretary of State, employees of the Secretary, and  
26       members of the State Board of Elections and their staff, shall only use the  
27       voter registration roster for purposes relevant to their prescribed duties of

- 1 election administration. The Secretary of State, and two (2) employees of the  
2 Secretary, who may be designated by the Secretary with explicit written  
3 authority and notification to the board, shall have electronic access to the  
4 information contained within the voter registration roster, but shall not  
5 correct, alter, or delete information from the voter registration roster, unless  
6 having obtained prior approval by a majority of the voting members of the  
7 board;
- 8 (b) For each primary, furnish each county clerk with a master list of all registered  
9 voters in the county, together with three (3) signature rosters of all registered  
10 voters in each precinct of the county according to party affiliation, and two (2)  
11 lists of all registered voters in each precinct of the county at least five (5) days  
12 prior to each primary;
- 13 (c) For each regular election, furnish each county clerk with a master list of all  
14 registered voters in the county, together with one (1) signature roster of all  
15 registered voters in each precinct of the county on which each voter's party  
16 affiliation is identified, and two (2) lists of all registered voters in each  
17 precinct of the county at least five (5) days prior to each regular election;
- 18 (d) Maintain all information furnished to the board relating to the inclusion or  
19 deletion of names from the rosters for four (4) years;
- 20 (e) Furnish, at a reasonable price, the state central executive committee of each  
21 political party qualifying under KRS 118.015 monthly data of all additions,  
22 deletions and changes of registration in each precinct of each county and the  
23 state central executive committee shall furnish a county listing to each of the  
24 county executive committees of each political party;
- 25 (f) Purchase, lease or contract for the use of equipment necessary to properly  
26 carry out its duties under the provisions of this chapter and KRS Chapters 116  
27 and 118;

- 1 (g) Secure information from any source which may assist the board in carrying  
2 out the purposes of this section;
- 3 (h) Furnish at a reasonable price any and all precinct lists to duly qualified  
4 candidates, political party committees or officials thereof, or any committee  
5 that advocates or opposes an amendment or public question. The State Board  
6 of Elections may also furnish the precinct lists to other persons at the board's  
7 discretion, at a reasonable price to be determined by the board. The board  
8 shall not furnish precinct lists to persons who intend to use the lists for  
9 commercial use; and
- 10 (i) Be responsible for oversight of board personnel, including hiring,  
11 investigations, disciplinary actions, promotions, and other like actions subject  
12 to KRS Chapter 18A.

13 **Notwithstanding paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection, if the State Board of**  
14 **Elections chooses to provide a master list of registered voters in an electronic**  
15 **format for use in e-poll books for a primary or an election, the electronic format**  
16 **shall be compatible with the e-poll book system that is selected by each county**  
17 **clerk. The State Board of Elections shall provide the electronic master list of**  
18 **registered voters to each county clerk at least ten (10) days before the first day of**  
19 **in-person absentee voting for a primary or an election.**

20 ➔Section 3. KRS 117.379 is amended to read as follows:

- 21 (1) Any person or corporation owning, manufacturing, or selling any voting system,  
22 may request the State Board of Elections to examine the voting system. Before  
23 requesting an examination or reexamination, any person, persons, or corporation  
24 shall pay to the State Treasurer a nonrefundable deposit of five hundred dollars  
25 (\$500) and submit a test report from an independent testing authority approved by  
26 the State Board of Elections. The report shall demonstrate that the voting system  
27 meets all Election Assistance Commission voting system standards.

1 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, if these voting system  
2 standards have been amended less than thirty-six (36) months prior to the request  
3 for examination under this subsection, the State Board of Elections may approve  
4 and certify a voting system that meets the prior standards after determining:

- 5 (a) The effect that such approval would have on the integrity and security of  
6 elections; and  
7 (b) The procedure and cost involved to bring the voting system into compliance  
8 with the amended standards.

9 The State Board of Elections may, at any time, reexamine any voting system already  
10 approved. The State Board of Elections shall approve or disapprove any voting  
11 system within sixty (60) days after the date of its initial submission. Any or all costs  
12 associated with the voting system being examined or reexamined shall be paid to  
13 the State Treasurer by the person or corporation once the approval or disapproval of  
14 the voting machine is complete.

- 15 (2) Upon receipt of a request for examination or reexamination of a voting system, the  
16 State Board of Elections shall require that such voting system be examined or  
17 reexamined by three (3) examiners. The State Board of Elections shall appoint one  
18 (1) examiner who is an expert in computer science or voting systems; one (1)  
19 person who is knowledgeable in election procedures, election security, and election  
20 law in Kentucky; and one (1) person who is a present or former county clerk. The  
21 three (3) examiners shall submit one (1) written report on each voting system  
22 examined or reexamined to the State Board of Elections. The members of the State  
23 Board of Elections shall also examine or reexamine the voting system. A voting  
24 system shall be approved and certified if the examiners' report states that the voting  
25 system meets all the requirements of KRS 117.125 and applicable federal law, and  
26 the State Board of Elections finds that the voting system meets all of the  
27 requirements of KRS 117.125 and applicable federal law. The report and a letter of



1 approval shall be filed in the office of the State Board of Elections.

2 (3) Any voting system not approved by the State Board of Elections shall not be used at  
3 any primary or election.

4 (4) When a voting system has been approved, any improvement or changes in the  
5 voting system shall render necessary the examination or approval of such voting  
6 system or improvement.

7 (5) Neither the members of the State Board of Elections, nor any examiner appointed  
8 by the State Board of Elections, nor any member of a county board of elections shall  
9 have any pecuniary interest in any voting system.

10 (6) Each examiner appointed by the State Board of Elections shall receive fair  
11 compensation to be established by the State Board of Elections.

12 **(7) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the State Board of Elections may**  
13 **examine any voter registration system maintained by the county clerks, including**  
14 **e-poll books, to establish the security of the system and its components, and the**  
15 **State Board of Elections shall timely report its findings to the county board of**  
16 **elections for each county under examination.**