

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1837

By Committee on Elections and Local Government

3-22

9 A RESOLUTION requesting a report from the secretary of state on the
10 costs, benefits and effectiveness related to implementing voters veri-
11 fied paper trail alternatives for electronic voting systems in the state
12 of Kansas to be in compliance with the help America vote act of 2002.
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14 WHEREAS, Voting is a fundamental right of every American citizen
15 and the foundation of our democracy; and

16 WHEREAS, Voting should not be an act of faith on the part of Kansas
17 citizens but an act of record which can be checked and corrected by
18 voters, as well as counted on a vote-by-vote basis in every situation in
19 which a voting recount is necessary; and

20 WHEREAS, It is a right of every citizen to feel secure that such citi-
21 zen's voting choices are recorded accurately; and

22 WHEREAS, Certainty of accurate vote-tallying is necessary to protect
23 the value and importance of voting to Kansas voters; and

24 WHEREAS, Current electronic voting systems may fail to protect the
25 integrity of our elections against user and operator errors and irregular-
26 ities, and fail to protect against faulty election results caused by computer
27 malfunctions, faulty software or hardware imperfections; and

28 WHEREAS, Electronic voting without a voter verified paper trail does
29 not guarantee voters that their votes were properly entered into the com-
30 puter voting system, and fails to allow for vote-by-vote election recounts
31 in case of perceived vote-tallying errors; and

32 WHEREAS, The electronic voting machines, which will be purchased
33 by the state for Kansas voting precincts in order to comply with the help
34 America vote act of 2002, may replace traditional paper ballots and optical
35 scan ballots which provided voter verified paper trails; and

36 WHEREAS, Electronic voting machines that do not produce a voter-
37 verified paper trail make errors and irregularities occurring during the
38 voting process and are difficult or impossible to discover; and

39 WHEREAS, The removal of voter verified paper trails from Kansas
40 voting processes endangers voter confidence and the guarantee of secu-
41 rity in the electoral process which assures that votes are correctly re-
42 corded: Now, therefore,

43 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That the secretary

1 of state shall prepare a report concerning the feasibility of implementing
2 electronic voting systems with voter verified paper trail capabilities in
3 compliance with the help America vote act of 2002; and
4 *Be it further resolved:* That the secretary of state's report shall also
5 consider the costs, availability and efficiency of the alternative voter ver-
6 ified paper trail system options that could be implemented in the state of
7 Kansas; and
8 *Be it further resolved:* That the secretary of state shall provide a copy
9 of its report to the President of the Senate and the chairperson of the
10 Senate Elections and Local Government Committee on or before January
11 17, 2006; and
12 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an
13 enrolled copy of this resolution to the Secretary of State.