

SENATE BILL 687

By Gilmore

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
Chapter 9, relative to records of votes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 9, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "DRE system" means a direct recording electronic voting system; and

(2) "VVPAT" means a voter-verifiable paper audit trail, which is a record contemporaneously printed at the time a voter casts a ballot using a DRE system.

(b) After July 1, 2021, a county election commission that purchases a DRE system shall ensure that the DRE system has the capability to create a VVPAT for each ballot cast.

(c) VVPATs must be preserved as paper ballots pursuant to § 2-8-108.

(d) At the request of a county election commission, the state coordinator of elections shall provide to the commission necessary assistance and guidance in the selection or upgrade of a DRE system pursuant to the requirements of this section. To the extent federal funding through the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), compiled generally in 52 U.S.C. § 20901 et seq., remains available for the cost of purchasing, leasing, or upgrading DRE systems, the coordinator shall provide financial assistance for purchasing or leasing such systems.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.