

State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1568

By: Representative S. Meeks

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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

### Subtitle

TO CREATE A STUDY OF THE USE OF CERTAIN  
ELECTION TECHNOLOGY.

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

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative study of and report on the use of certain election technology – Purpose – Scope – Requirements.

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

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

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

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



limitation:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**APPROVED: 3/23/21**