

SENATE BILL 2705

By Yarbro

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,  
relative to elections.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 8, is amended by adding the following new section:

(a) The administrator of elections of each county shall ensure that no election system and that no software function as part of an election system in the county utilize:

(1) Decimals or fractions for the purpose of providing weighted outcomes relating to the tabulation or calculation of votes;

(2) Barcodes or Quick Response (QR) codes on a ballot for purposes of tabulating or calculating votes; or

(3) Any other method of fractional cumulative voting for the purpose of tabulating or calculating votes.

(b) The administrator of elections shall ensure that the firmware supporting any election system or software function identified under subsection (a) is removed, replaced, or modified in a manner that brings the system or function into compliance with this section.

(c) For purposes of compliance with this section and except for the initial review, each administrator of elections shall implement a system for the review of software coding and firmware used in election systems and to support software functions every two (2) years. The review must be completed no later than October 1 in odd-numbered years beginning in 2021. Each administrator of elections shall certify to the coordinator

of elections compliance with this section no later than twenty-one (21) days following completion of the review.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 12, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

A county administrator of elections shall make available to that county's election commissioners all materials, documents, logs, lists, databases, financial statements, agreements and contracts, and other election-related information held by the county administrator of elections at any time during regular business hours.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 11, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

The state election commission shall promulgate rules that require standard operating procedures for all county election commissions regarding:

- (1) Election day procedures for poll workers; and
- (2) Procedures to ensure a secure chain of custody of ballots, ballot images, voter rolls, poll books, voting machine records, and vote tabulator records.

SECTION 4. Section 2 of this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For the purposes of promulgating rules and carrying out administrative duties, Sections 1 and 3 of this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, Section 1 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2020, and Section 3 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.