

1 SB286
2 205391-3
3 By Senator Beasley
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs
5 First Read: 10-MAR-20

SYNOPSIS: This bill would authorize the Secretary of State to conduct a one-time post-election pilot audit after the November 3, 2020, general election to determine the accuracy of the originally reported outcome of the election.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to elections; to authorize the Secretary of State to conduct a one-time post-election pilot audit after the November 3, 2020, general election to determine the accuracy of the originally reported outcome of the election.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) This act shall be known and may be cited as the Alabama Voter Confidence Pilot Act.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the Secretary of State may conduct a limited post-election

1 pilot audit of the November 3, 2020, statewide general
2 election, as provided in this subsection.

3 (1) The post-election pilot audit shall be conducted
4 no earlier than November 30, 2020, and no later than January
5 31, 2021.

6 (2) The audit shall be conducted in three counties
7 selected by the Secretary of State as follows: One county in
8 north Alabama, one county in central Alabama, and one county
9 in south Alabama; and shall be conducted on only one statewide
10 office selected by the Secretary of State and on one county
11 office in each of the three selected counties.

12 (3) In the three selected counties, the Secretary of
13 State shall consult with the respective judge of probate and
14 sheriff to select the day to conduct the audit and the county
15 office to be audited.

16 (4) The Secretary of State may issue a written order
17 to the respective judge of probate and sheriff of the three
18 selected counties, which shall be the only authority necessary
19 for the judge of probate and sheriff to open the appropriate
20 ballot boxes and provide any other necessary election
21 materials in order for the audit to be conducted. The order
22 shall include the name of the statewide office and the county
23 office to be audited.

24 (5) The Secretary of State may request the judge of
25 probate and sheriff to access ballot boxes and necessary
26 election materials prior to the audit to ensure that election

1 material is accurately organized and accounted for in
2 preparation of the audit.

3 (6) Poll workers shall be appointed to conduct the
4 post-election pilot audit, and appointments shall be made in
5 the same manner as for any other election activity.

6 (c) All expenses incurred by any county pursuant to
7 this section shall be reimbursed from federal funds made
8 available for use by the Secretary of State, and when federal
9 funds are not available or are no longer available,
10 reimbursement shall be made pursuant to Article 1, commencing
11 with Section 17-16-1, of Chapter 16 of Title 17, Code of
12 Alabama 1975.

13 (d) The judge of probate shall make all results from
14 the post-election pilot audit public by posting the results on
15 the courthouse door at the conclusion of the audit and posting
16 the results on the official website of the Secretary of State.

17 Section 2. This act shall become effective
18 immediately following its passage and approval by the
19 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.