

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### RS30302C1 / S1110

This legislation would require any software used with ballot counting machines that count paper ballots to be open source software. The term "open source software" is defined in the legislation. The bill also includes a requirement that paper ballots that are counted by the ballot counting machine be time stamped as to when the ballot is counted and that there be a machine identifying number stamped on the ballot at the time it is counted.

This legislation would become effective January 1, 2027. Prior to the effective date, the Secretary of State would report to the Legislature, once a year, as to the progress in implementing these requirements.

### FISCAL NOTE

This legislation becomes effective January 1, 2027. Each year before the effective date the Secretary of State will be required to report to the Legislature what progress has been made. Ultimately, county elections departments will need to upgrade their ballot counting machines to these new requirements. The cost of these upgrades is unknown at this time.

#### Contact:

Senator Phil Hart  
(208) 332-1345  
Senator Cindy J. Carlson  
(208) 332-1355

**DISCLAIMER:** This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).