

STATE OF NEW YORK

10241

IN ASSEMBLY

March 26, 2018

Introduced by M. of A. GALEF -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to requiring the board of elections or a bipartisan committee to conduct a risk-limiting audit of voter verifiable audit records

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 9-211 of the election law, as
2 amended by section 515 of the laws of 2015, is amended to read as
3 follows:

4 § 9-211. Audit of voter verifiable audit records. 1. (a) Within
5 fifteen days after each general or special election, and within seven
6 days after every primary or village election conducted by the board of
7 elections, the board of elections or a bipartisan committee appointed by
8 such board shall conduct a risk-limiting audit of the voter verifiable
9 audit records from ~~[three percent of]~~ the voting machines or systems
10 within the jurisdiction of such board in accordance with the regulations
11 promulgated pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section. Such audits may
12 be performed manually or via the use of any automated tool authorized
13 for such use by the state board of elections which is independent from
14 the voting system it is being used to audit. Voting machines or systems
15 shall be selected for audit through a random, manual process. At least
16 five days prior to the time fixed for such selection process, the board
17 of elections shall send notice by first class mail to each candidate,
18 political party and independent body entitled to have had watchers pres-
19 ent at the polls in any election district in such board's jurisdiction.
20 Such notice shall state the time and place fixed for such random
21 selection process. The audit shall be conducted in the same manner, to
22 the extent applicable, as a canvass of paper ballots. Each candidate,
23 political party or independent body entitled to appoint watchers to
24 attend at a polling place shall be entitled to appoint such number of
25 watchers to observe the audit.

26 (b) The state board of elections shall promulgate regulations for the
27 use of risk-limiting audits required by paragraph (a) of this section.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 The number of voter verifiable audit records selected for such audits
2 shall be determined pursuant to such regulations that make use of
3 statistical methods and are designed to limit the risk of certifying an
4 incorrect outcome.

5 § 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
6 have become a law and shall apply to any election held 180 days or more
7 after it shall have taken effect; provided that the state board of
8 elections is authorized to immediately adopt, amend and promulgate such
9 rules and regulations as may be necessary and desirable to effectuate
10 the purposes of this act.