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SENATE BILL NO. 988

Senate Amendments in [] — February 6, 2009

A BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-626 of the Code of Virginia, relating to elections; acquisition of voting equipment by localities.

Patrons Prior to Engrossment—Senators Colgan, Edwards and Reynolds

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 24.2-626 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 24.2-626. Governing bodies shall acquire electronic voting or counting systems.

The governing body of each county and city shall provide for the use of electronic voting or counting systems, of a kind approved by the State Board, at every precinct and for all elections held in the county, the city, or any part of the county or city.

Each county and city governing body shall purchase, lease, lease purchase, or otherwise acquire such systems and may provide for the payment therefor in the manner it deems proper. Systems of different kinds may be adopted for use and be used in different precincts of the same county or city, or within a precinct or precincts in a county or city, subject to the approval of the State Board.

~~[On and after July 1, 2007, no county or city shall acquire any direct recording electronic machine (DRE) for use in elections in the county or city. DREs acquired prior to July 1, 2007, may be used in elections in the county or city for the remainder of their useful life.~~

On and after July 1, 2007, no county or city shall acquire any direct recording electronic machine (DRE) for use in elections in the county or city *except as provided herein*. DREs acquired prior to July 1, 2007, may be used in elections in the county or city for the remainder of their useful life. *In addition, any locality that acquired DREs prior to July 1, 2007, may acquire DREs on a temporary basis to conduct an election when the existing DRE inventory is insufficient to conduct the election because all or part of its inventory is under lock or seal as required by § 24.2-659.*

ENGROSSED

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