SENATE BILL No. 149

By Senator Haley

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9 AN ACT concerning election crimes; amending K.S.A. 25-2425 and re-10 pealing the existing section.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 25-2425 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2425. (a) Voting machine fraud is: (a) (1) Being in unlawful or unauthorized possession of a voting machine key.

- (b) (2) Intentionally tampering with, altering, disarranging, defacing, impairing or destroying any voting machine, automatic ballot, voting machine label or register or record made by a voting machine.
 - For the purposes of this section:
- (1)"Ballot" means a paper ballot on which candidates' names or questions are printed and which:
- (A) Is designed to receive opaque marks which can be detected by optical scanning equipment; and
 - (B) which is capable of being counted manually.
- "Ballot" includes an electronic display or printed document containing the offices and questions on which voters in a specified voting area are eligible to vote.
- "Counting location" means the location in the county selected by the county election officer for the automatic processing or counting, or both, of ballots.
- "Direct recording electronic system" means a system that records votes by means of a ballot display provided with mechanical or electrooptical components that can be activated by the voter, that processes data by means of a computer program, that records voting data and ballot images in memory components, that produces a tabulation of the voting data stored in a removable memory component and as printed copy, and that may also provide a means for transmitting individual ballots or vote totals to a central location for consolidating and reporting results from precincts at the central location.
- "Electronic or electromechanical voting system" means a system of casting votes by use of marking devices and tabulating ballots employing automatic tabulating equipment or data processing equipment including a direct recording electronic system.

- 1 (5) "Optical scanning equipment" means an apparatus designed to 2 examine and detect opaque marks on ballots which represent votes and 3 count and tabulate those votes by electronic methods.
- 4 (6) "System" means an optical scanning system of automatically 5 counting and tabulating ballots with optical scanning equipment.
- 6 (7) "Voting machine" means any device for the collection of votes 7 which:
- 8 (A) Meets the requirements of K.S.A. 25-1310 and amendments 9 thereto; and
- 10 (B) has been approved by the secretary of state in accordance with 11 K.S.A. 25-1310 and amendments thereto.
- 12 A voting machine may utilize an electronic or electromechanical voting 13 system or a direct recording electronic system for the casting or recording 14 of votes.
- (c) Voting machine fraud is a severity level 10, nonperson felony.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 25-2425 is hereby repealed.
- 17 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.