



2022 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1329

HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS ENGROSSED

Introduced by: **Representative Howard**

1 **An Act to require a forensic audit of election results after each presidential general**
 2 **election.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That chapter 12-20 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

5 The State Board of Elections shall conduct a forensic audit of ballots, voting
 6 equipment, and voter verification processes, to verify the results of every federal office
 7 on the ballot of a general election in which the offices of President and Vice President of
 8 the United States are on the ballot and the two candidates with the highest number of
 9 votes are separated by less than ten percent of the total votes cast. The audit must be
 10 completed by June 1 of the year following the election. The board may contract with a
 11 third party with experience in forensic audits of elections.

12 **Section 2. That § 12-1-9 be AMENDED:**

13 **12-1-9.** The State Board of Elections shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter
 14 1-26, concerning:

- 15 (1) Forms for voter registration and voter file maintenance;
- 16 (2) Forms and color of ballots;
- 17 (3) Forms for notices;
- 18 (4) The uniformity of election procedures;
- 19 (5) The operation of the State Board of Elections;
- 20 (6) The procedure to accept a petition and verify petition signatures;
- 21 (7) Petition forms, including petition size and petition font size;
- 22 (8) Envelopes for absentee voting;
- 23 (9) Instructions to voters and absentee voters; ~~and~~
- 24 (10) Recounts; and
- 25 (11) Forensic audits of election results.