

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5554

---

---

As of February 6, 2011

**Title:** An act relating to identifying marks on ballots.

**Brief Description:** Preventing rejection of ballots that have voter identifying marks.

**Sponsors:** Senators Roach and Chase.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Government Operations, Tribal Relations & Elections:

---

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, TRIBAL RELATIONS & ELECTIONS

**Staff:** Diane Smith (786-7410)

**Background:** One criteria for paper ballots issued by an election official is that the election official may not mark them in any way that would permit the voter to be identified.

**Summary of Bill:** No ballot may contain an encrypted or unencrypted bar code or other unique identifying mark other than a randomly assigned, unique mark not associated with an individual voter, a voter's address, or a voter's registration number. The purpose of the allowed mark may only be for auditing, vote-reconciliation, or to determine if the ballot has been counted.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

---

*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*