Bill No.: SB-643
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING THE REPORTING OF ELECTION RESULTS.
Vote Date: 3/29/2019
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/25/2019
File No.: 

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee

CO-Sponsors
Sen. Leonard A. Fasano, 34th Dist.
Sen. Kevin D. Witkos, 8th Dist.
Rep. Craig C. Fishbein, 90th Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

To reduce the likelihood of a mistake being made on the moderator’s returns, this bill requires that the original tabulator results tape, or a digital image of it, be sent in to the Secretary of the State’s office so that the original numbers can be checked against the moderator’s return for accuracy.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Denise Merrill, Secretary of the State: testified that this bill would expand the information that is reported to her office on election night, and could help in catching mistakes. She also stated that she has some concerns as to the practicality of doing this, and is willing to work with the bill’s proponents on language that would make this feasible.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Senator Leonard Fasano, Senate Republican Leader: testified that providing the Secretary of the State’s office with a copy of or the original tabulator results tape would help to avoid the situation that occurred in the 2018 election, where a recount was required due to the
misreading and reporting of a tabulator tape. He further stated that this would ensure greater accuracy on the moderator’s report.

**Sue Larsen, President, Registrars of Voters Association of CT (ROVAC):** testified it would be simple for the moderators to produce an additional tape to send to the Secretary of the State, and that doing so would give the Secretary’s office additional information to review for accuracy.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None expressed.

Reported by: Melissa Russell  
Assistant Clerk  

Date: 4/9/2019