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HOUSE BILL 20

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Justine Fox-Young

AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS; REQUIRING VOTER IDENTIFICATION BY  
SIGNATURE VERIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR PROCEDURES; MAKING AN  
APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Election Code is enacted  
to read:

"NEW MATERIAL VOTER IDENTIFICATION BY SIGNATURE  
VERIFICATION--PROCEDURE--EXEMPTIONS.--

A. The signature rosters at each polling place  
shall contain digital facsimile signatures of each registered  
voter on the roster.

B. Each voter shall sign the signature roster  
before casting a ballot on election day. If the actual  
signature of a voter is significantly at variance from the

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1 digital facsimile signature on the signature roster and no  
2 member of the precinct board has personal knowledge of the  
3 identity of the voter, the voter shall vote on a provisional  
4 paper ballot. The voter's provisional paper ballot shall be  
5 counted only if the voter presents to the precinct board or  
6 county clerk an acceptable form of identification before 7:00  
7 p.m. on election day.

8 C. In determining the validity of a signature, the  
9 precinct board may consider factors such as the age or  
10 disability of the voter.

11 D. A voter qualifying for assistance pursuant to  
12 Section 1-12-12 NMSA 1978 is exempt from the requirements of  
13 this section.

14 E. Counties with digital facsimile signature  
15 capability shall comply with the provisions of this section  
16 commencing with the 2006 primary election. All counties shall  
17 comply with the provisions of this section on or before the  
18 2006 general election."

19 Section 2. APPROPRIATION.--Two hundred fifty thousand  
20 dollars (\$250,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the  
21 secretary of state for expenditure in fiscal years 2006 and  
22 2007 to reimburse counties for purchasing digital facsimile  
23 signature printers. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance  
24 remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the  
25 general fund.

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