

HB 217 -- ELECTRONIC VOTER IDENTIFICATION

SPONSOR: Dugger

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Elections by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill allows an election authority to use an electronic voter identification system or an electronic signature pad to verify a voter's address, registration status, and signature information at a polling place. The system or pad must be able to read identifying information from an individual's driver's or nondriver's license and must allow the election authority to manually enter information into the system from a valid form of personal identification containing the voter's signature.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows election authorities to use electronic signature pads to verify voter information and does not alter any of the requirements for voting. An election authority will retain the ability to manually enter and check information. Greene County has implemented a successful version of this system for verifying voter information.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Dugger; and Missouri Association of County Clerks and Election Authorities.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.