

1 SENATE BILL NO. 197

2 INTRODUCED BY M. CUFFE

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF RACES INCLUDED IN THE
5 POSTELECTION AUDIT; AMENDING SECTION 13-17-503, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE
6 EFFECTIVE DATE."

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8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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10 Section 1. Section 13-17-503, MCA, is amended to read:

11 "13-17-503. Random-sample audit of vote-counting machines required -- rulemaking authority.

12 (1) After unofficial results are available to the public in a federal election, but before the official canvass by the
13 county board of canvassers, the county audit committee shall conduct a random-sample audit of vote-counting
14 machines.

15 (2) The random-sample audit may not include a ballot that a vote-counting machine was unable to
16 process and that was not resolved pursuant to 13-15-206 because the ballot:

- 17 (a) appeared to have at least one overvote;
- 18 (b) appeared to be blank;
- 19 (c) was in a condition that prevented its processing by a vote-counting machine; or
- 20 (d) contained a mark, error, or omission that prevented its processing by a vote-counting machine.

21 (3) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (5), the random-sample audit must include:

22 (a) at least 5% 10% of the precincts in each county or a minimum of ~~one~~ two ~~precinct~~ precincts in
23 each county, whichever is greater, unless a county has only one precinct; and

24 (b) ~~an election~~ elections for:

- 25 (i) ~~one~~ two statewide office ~~race~~ races, if any;
- 26 (ii) ~~one~~ two federal office ~~race~~ races;
- 27 (iii) ~~one~~ two legislative office ~~race~~ races; and
- 28 (iv) ~~one~~ two statewide ballot ~~issue~~ issues if a statewide ballot ~~issue~~ issues were on the ballot.

