

## SB0523 Election Law - Postelection Tabulation Audits - Risk-Limiting Audits

My understanding is that this audit would take place before an election is certified and would involve manually counting some portion of the ballots. This would replace the manual audit that takes place well after the election. Based upon the contest outcome the sample size of the audit would be set. If the contest being audited is close, a larger sample size would be required than if the contest were not close. The actual process and confidence limits to determine sample size would be determined by SBE.

This process could be good depending upon the confidence limits set. It would give us an actual hand count of ballots before certifying the results. And it may inspire greater confidence in the election results. It all depends upon the numbers and process used. Don't see a negative to this pilot process. The existing manual ballot audit in February has always shown good results yet it's so far after the election that most people question its utility.

The section which gives the State Board of Elections the power to alter the results of the election upon the basis of a statistical test is very problematic. However, the candidates would absolutely request a recount if the results of the audited contest were altered such that the order of finish changed.

Robert Atkins