



Legislation Text

File #: 2007-0633, **Version:** 1

Clerk 11/29/2007

A MOTION related to elections, stating the council's approval of the executive's report on firms connected with software to help track ballots and to help reconcile the number of ballots sent and received.

WHEREAS, Ordinance 15523, enacted on June 29, 2006, required the county executive to develop the ability to track ballots, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 15905, enacted on September 24, 2007, included a budget proviso that required the executive to transmit a report that provides clear information on the corporate ownership of VoteHere software, technical assistance levels and assurances for the product and information on the physical presence of the corporation in the northwest including their availability to support the county on site, and

WHEREAS, ballot tracking will allow individual voters to track their ballot envelope through several stages of processing but not through ballot tabulation, and

WHEREAS, a ballot tracking system will help ensure the accuracy of the ballot reconciliation process by automating certain labor-intensive processes, and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2007, the council considered the passage of Proposed Motion 2007-0328 proposed by the executive as a hardware and software solution that would allow the county to better track and reconcile ballots, and

WHEREAS, during public testimony on Proposed Motion 2007-0328, concerns were raised regarding the viability and reliability of firms associated with the executive's proposal for ballot tracking and reconciliation software, and

WHEREAS, the council delayed taking action on a software component needed to assist in ballot tracking and reconciliation in order to investigate the validity of concerns raised during public testimony, and

WHEREAS, King County staff researched the companies and met with the principals of the firms associated with a software solution to assist in ballot tracking and reconciliation, and

WHEREAS, the research and information gathered by King County staff indicate that the firms and individuals associated with a software solution for ballot tracking and reconciliation are credible and reliable, and

WHEREAS, the executive has submitted a report that provides clear information on the corporate ownership of VoteHere software, technical assistance levels and assurances for the product and information on the physical presence of the corporation in the northwest including their availability to support the county on site, and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Secretary of State has signed a contract with the firm that provides product development and support for ballot tracking and reconciliation software, and

WHEREAS, King County is considering a similar relationship with the firm that the Office of the Secretary of State is using;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

The council concurs in the executive's report on VoteHere software required by Ordinance 15905 related to the executive's proposal to purchase software for ballot tracking and reconciliation which shall be implemented under the procurement provisions of the King County Code.