

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

## Bill Analysis

Bill No. ESB 5662

Relating to a study of on-line voting.

Bill title

Hearing Date 3/23/99

Senators Finkbeiner, Brown and Winsley

Sponsor(s)

Staff: Scot MacColl

State Government Committee

Phone: 786-7106

### BACKGROUND:

Altogether, current on-line direct paper ballot and on-line absentee mail ballot.

### SUMMARY:

A task force would be assembled by the Secretary of State to study the issues and challenges presented by incorporating on-line and Internet technologies into the voting process. Within the study, the Secretary of State must

- create an advisory committee composed of county election staff, technical experts and other experts to assist the task force with research;
- determine the appropriate security measures required and minimum standards for certification systems, and make recommendations concerning statutes to be adopted to implement the system; and
- consider the impact of on-line (Internet) voting participation, public accessibility, potential external influences on the election process, and issues related to conducting administration of the election.

The Secretary of State must report to the legislature by March 2000, and the task force must report by June 30, 2001.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Available.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill passed.