Bill Summary

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 1655
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Author: Sen. Rader
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Bill Analysis

SB 1655 prohibits any person or entity from distributing synthetic media messages that the person or entity knows are deceptive and fraudulent deepfakes of candidates or parties on the state or local ballot within 90 days prior to the election. Synthetic media messages are images, audio recordings, and video recordings of an individual's appearance, speech, or conduct that has been created or intentionally manipulated with the use of generative adversarial network techniques or other digital technology in a manner to create a realistic but false image, audio, or video. Such messages may be distributed if a disclosure is included in a manner outlined in the measure. Candidates whose appearance is depicted in such media that do not disclose their nature may seek injunctive or other equitable relief. Materially deceptive audio or visual media that constitutes satire or parody are excluded from the provisions of this measure.

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