

71. The judges shall open the ballot-box and count and announce the whole number of ballots in the box. They shall reject any ballots which are deceitfully folded together, and any ballots which do not have indorsed thereon the name or initial of the judge who held the ballots, or if there shall be any mark on the ballot other than the cross-mark in a square opposite the name of a candidate or other than the name or names of any candidates written by the voter on the ballot as provided in section 53, such ballot shall not be counted. Ballots not counted for such defects shall be marked "Defective" on the back thereof and shall be wrapped in a separate package and returned to the ballot-box as hereinafter directed. No vote shall be counted for any candidate opposite whose name no cross-mark shall be placed, and no ballot shall be rejected solely because any part or portion of the cross-mark extends beyond the square, if the point of intersection of the cross-mark is within the square, or because the voter has marked more names than there are persons to be elected to an office, but such ballots shall not be counted for any candidate in the group of names so marked. They shall open the ballots, and all of them shall be canvassed separately by one of the judges sitting between two other judges, which judge shall call out each name and the office for which it is designated and the other judges looking at the ballot at the same time, and the clerks making tally of the same. When all the ballots have been canvassed in this manner, the election clerks shall compare their tallies together and ascertain the total number of votes received by each candidate, and when they agree upon the numbers, one of them shall announce in a loud voice to the judges the aggregate number of votes received by each candidate. If requested by any watcher or challenger present at any canvass, it shall be the duty of the judges and each of them to exhibit to such watcher or challenger any ballot cast, fully opened or in such condition and manner that he may fully read and examine the same, but the judges shall not allow any ballot to be taken from their hands. As the ballots are counted they shall be strung upon a strong twine; the foregoing provisions to apply to Baltimore City, Baltimore county, Garrett county, Allegany county, Washington county, Frederick county, Carroll county, Harford county, Montgomery county, Howard county, Prince George's county, Calvert county, Charles county, St. Mary's county, Cecil county, Kent county, Queen Anne's county, Talbot county, Caroline county, Dorchester county, Wicomico county and Somerset county.

71A. This section shall apply only to Anne Arundel county and Worcester county, in which counties the judges shall open