

Books to be kept in custody.

Permit examination.

Accurate copy to be made.

Who to ascertain.

Serve written notification.

for the several counties of this State, and the clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore city, and each of the respective officers of registration appointed under this act, and the Board of Police Commissioners for the city of Baltimore, and the sheriff of each county in the State, shall carefully and safely keep all books or lists named or referred to in this act which may come into his or their custody under the provisions of this act during the times appointed for his or their custody of such books or lists; he or they shall at all times permit examination of the same in his or their presence, or in the presence of one or more of his or their deputies specially authorized for that purpose, and not otherwise; he or they shall not, unless duly authorized by the order of the proper judges or judge, alter, mutilate or deface, or suffer any other person to alter, mutilate or deface any of the said lists of qualified and registered voters or registries of voters, each of the said respective clerks, when notified by the sheriff of his county, or, in the case of the clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore city, by the Board of Police Commissioners for the city of Baltimore, that any one or more of the lists of voters committed to the custody of such sheriff or of such board, contained in any registry of voters in the keeping of such clerk, is or are missing, shall proceed without delay to make, or cause to be made, a fair and accurate copy or copies, certified under his hand and the seal of his court, of said missing list or lists, and deliver the same to said sheriff or to said Board of Police Commissioners at least twelve hours before the opening of the polls at the election next ensuing.

SEC. 30. *And be it enacted*, That the sheriffs of the respective counties and the Board of Police Commissioners for the city of Baltimore shall, respectively, on or before the third day prior to each and every election, ascertain whether he has or they have in his or their possession, all the copies of said lists committed to his or their custody; and if it shall appear that one or more of said lists are not in his or their possession, he or they shall without delay serve a written notification, accurately describing the missing list, on the clerk of the court having the custody of the registry of voters or reg-