

of the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry, may enter into a consent election agreement leading to a determination by the Commissioner or his duly authorized representatives of the facts ascertained after such consent election. Such agreement shall include a description of the appropriate unit, the time and place of holding the election, and the payroll to be used in determining what employees within the appropriate unit shall be eligible to vote. Such consent election shall be conducted under the direction and supervision of the Commissioner or his duly authorized representatives, and the rulings and determinations by the Commissioner or his duly authorized representatives of the results thereof shall be final, and the Commissioner or his duly authorized representatives shall issue to the parties a certification of the results of the election, including certification of representatives where appropriate.

12B. (Election Procedure.) (a) All elections shall be by secret ballot. Whenever two or more labor organizations are included as choices in an election, either participant, upon its prompt request to and approval thereof by the Commissioner or his duly authorized representatives, whose decision shall be final, may have its name removed from the ballot. Any party may be represented by observers of his own selection, subject to such limitations as the Commissioner or his duly authorized representatives may prescribe. Any party and the Department of Labor and Industry representatives may challenge, for good cause, the eligibility of any person to participate in the election. The ballots of such challenged persons shall be impounded. Upon the conclusion of the election, the Commissioner or his duly authorized representatives shall cause to be furnished to the parties a tally of the ballots. Within five days after the tally of ballots has been furnished, any party may file with the Commissioner four copies of objections to the conduct of the election or conduct affecting the results of the election, which shall contain a short statement of the reasons therefor. Such filing must be timely whether or not the challenged ballots are sufficient in number to affect the results of the election. Copies of such objections shall immediately be served upon each of the other parties by the party filing them, and proof of service shall be made to the Department of Labor and Industry.

(b) If no objections are filed within the time set forth above, if the challenged ballots are insufficient in number to affect the result of the election, and if no run-off election is to be held, the Commissioner or his duly authorized representatives shall forthwith issue to the parties a certification of the results of the election, including certification of representatives, and the proceeding will thereupon be closed.

(c) If objections are filed to the conduct of the election or conduct affecting the result of the election, or if the challenged ballots are sufficient in number to affect the result of the election, the Commissioner or his duly authorized representatives shall investigate such objections, challenges or both, and shall prepare and cause to be served upon the parties a report on challenged ballots, objections, or both, including recommendations. Within ten days from the date of issuance of the report on challenged ballots, objections, or both any party may file with the Department of Labor, four copies of exceptions to such report. Immediately upon the filing of such exceptions, the party filing the same shall serve a copy thereof upon each of the