

23-8. Same—Separate offenses; punishment.

In the enforcement of Secs. 23-3 to 23-7, inclusive, of this subtitle, each separate violation and the invalidity or impropriety of each individual signature is a separate offense, punishable under the general penalties provided in Sec. 24-27 of this Article; and also punishable (if the offense warrants) under the laws concerning perjury.

23-9. Publication of laws.

Not later than thirty days prior to any election at which laws are to be submitted to the voters under the provisions of Article XVI of the State Constitution, the text of any such measures shall be published by order of the Governor at least by one insertion in two or more newspapers published within the several counties of the State, and in those counties where there is only one newspaper published which is a weekly of general circulation, then in such weekly newspaper and in all the daily newspapers published in Baltimore City which will publish the same at the current rate of commercial advertising; in the case of laws referred only to the voters of Baltimore City or of a particular county, such publication shall be made in at least one newspaper of general circulation in said city or county.

23-10. Cost of publication.

The cost of publishing in newspapers any laws upon which a referendum vote shall be taken under the provisions of Article XVI of the Constitution shall be paid as follows: If said law is submitted to the voters of the entire State, by the Secretary of State out of funds appropriated for said purpose by the General Assembly in the budget bill; if said law is submitted to the voters of any county of the State, by the board of county commissioners or county council of said county, and if said law is submitted to the voters of the City of Baltimore, by the mayor and city council of Baltimore.

23-11. Result of votes.

(a) It shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners, the county council, the mayor or other executive head of every municipal corporation and the executive head of any other political subdivision in this State, in which jurisdiction there is held a referendum vote on any law, ordinance or resolution, to report the results of such referendum as promptly as possible to the clerk of the court in the county or counties in which said political subdivision lies or, in Baltimore City, to the Clerk of the Superior Court of the city; and as promptly as possible thereafter said clerk of court shall certify the results of any such referendum to the Secretary of State and to the State Comptroller. Each of such latter officials is directed to collect and keep careful records of such certifications.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to collect from the boards and/or other officials having the same including the several clerks of court and to keep in his office a record of all referendum votes taken by the voters of the State or any county therein, or the City of Baltimore, or by an incorporated city or town of the State on any proposed incorporation of a town, upon any law passed at any session of the General Assembly of the State, whether regular or extraordinary, and whether the referendum