

tion Code," subtitle "Nomination by Petition," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

7-1.

(e) Any paper which is to form a part of a certificate of candidacy shall be submitted to the board for the county or the City of Baltimore in which the signers on the paper are alleged to reside. The board shall give to anyone submitting any such paper or papers a signed receipt stating that the paper or papers are on file with the board. It shall be the duty of the several boards in the jurisdiction in which the signers are alleged to be registered voters to verify the number of legitimate signatures of persons who are registered voters. On any petition, including an associated or included set of petitions, submitted to the board, any question concerning the invalidity of the signature of any person on the petition affects that signature only and does not affect or impair any other portion of the petition or petitions. Following the verification, a duly authorized employee of the board shall endorse on each paper the number of signatures verified by the employee and shall endorse and sign the paper. For the purpose of the endorsement, each paper shall contain a blank space for the endorsement. The papers shall be delivered to the boards not later than 9:00 p.m. on the Monday which is ten weeks or seventy days before the day on which the primary election should be held under the primary election law. All papers delivered to a board pursuant to this subsection and required to be filed with the [Secretary of State] *State Administrative Board of Election Laws* pursuant to Section 4A-2 shall, after verification and endorsement as herein required, be mailed or delivered by the board to the [Secretary of State] *State Administrative Board of Elections Laws*, [within thirty (30) days after] *on the Monday which is five weeks or thirty-five days before the day on which the primary election should be held under the primary election law*. The [Secretary of State] *State Administrative Board of Election Laws* shall determine the sufficiency of the percentage of registered voters signing petitions in those cases in which candidates file certificates of nomination or of candidacy in [his] *its* office. In all other instances, such determination shall be made by the local boards.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 28, 1970

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CHAPTER 437

(House Bill 340)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 2-6(d) of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Cumulative Supplement), title "Election Code," subtitle "Election Boards and