

only one general return sheet under certain conditions; and providing that this Act is an emergency measure.

BY adding to

Article 33 - Election Code
Section 16-18
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1971 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 16-18 be and it is hereby added to Article 33 - Election Code, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 33 - Election Code

16-18.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS TITLE OR OF §14-1 PERTAINING TO THE USE OF THREE RETURN SHEETS, A LOCAL BOARD MAY ADOPT A PROCEDURE USING A SINGLE GENERAL RETURN SHEET UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

(1) AT LEAST 25 DAYS BEFORE AN ELECTION THE LOCAL BOARD SHALL ADVISE THE STATE BOARD OF ITS INTENTION TO UTILIZE A SINGLE GENERAL RETURN SHEET FOR EACH DISTRICT, WARD OR PRECINCT; AND

(2) THE MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL BOARD SHALL SIGN A CERTIFICATION THAT EVERY COUNTER USED IN THE ELECTION HAS BEEN CANVASSED AND VERIFIED BY THE BOARD; AND

(3) AT THE TIME OF SUBMITTING THE CERTIFIED COPIES OF RETURNS REQUIRED BY SECTION 17-5, THE LOCAL BOARD SHALL FURNISH A COPY OF THE CERTIFICATION SPECIFIED IN (2) ABOVE.

SECTION 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 1, 1976.