

outstanding balance, bills or deficits as shown on the last report filed. The officer or board shall file a copy of this permanent record with the State Administrative Board of Election Laws AND WITH THE HALL OF RECORDS. [All reports, statements and accounts shall, during the hours for which the office in which they are filed is open, be subject and open to inspection of any citizen of this State. Copies of the reports, statements or accounts certified by and under the seal of the principal administrative officer in whose office they are kept, shall be evidence in all the courts to the same extent as the original thereof be if produced and proved.] COPIES OF THESE REPORTS, STATEMENTS AND ACCOUNTS CERTIFIED BY THE PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN WHOSE OFFICE THEY ARE KEPT UNDER THE SEAL OF HIS OFFICE SHALL BE EVIDENCE IN ANY COURT TO THE SAME EXTENT AS THE ORIGINAL REPORT, STATEMENT OR ACCOUNT WOULD BE IF PRODUCED AND PROVED.

8-3.

The State Administrative Board of Election Laws and the several boards shall [cause to be retained in their respective offices for two years all certificates of candidacy and of nomination filed with them under the provisions of this article. All such certificates shall be open to public inspection.] RECEIVE, FILE AND PRESERVE ALL CERTIFICATES OF CANDIDACY AND OF NOMINATION WHICH ARE FILED WITH THEM UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE. THESE CERTIFICATES OF CANDIDACY AND OF NOMINATION SHALL BE KEPT AS PART OF THE RECORDS OF THE BOARD FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED FIVE YEARS OR FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR BEYOND THE LENGTH OF THE TERM OF THE PUBLIC OR PARTY OFFICE FOR WHICH EVERY CANDIDATE TO WHOM THESE CERTIFICATES OF CANDIDACY AND OF NOMINATION APPLY, HAS OFFERED HIMSELF FOR NOMINATION OR ELECTION, REGARDLESS IF THE CANDIDATE IS SUCCESSFUL, UNSUCCESSFUL, OR RESIGNS, OR FOR A LONGER PERIOD IF ORDERED BY A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION. THESE CERTIFICATES OF CANDIDACY AND OF NOMINATION SHALL BE SUBJECT AND OPEN TO INSPECTION BY ANY CITIZEN OF THIS STATE DURING THE HOURS IN WHICH THE OFFICE IN WHICH THE CERTIFICATES OF CANDIDACY AND OF NOMINATION ARE KEPT IS OPEN. THEREAFTER THE CERTIFICATES OF CANDIDACY AND OF NOMINATION SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE HALL OF RECORDS WHERE THEY SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 54, SECTION 10 OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND. COPIES OF THESE CERTIFICATES OF CANDIDACY AND OF NOMINATION CERTIFIED BY THE PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN WHOSE OFFICE THEY ARE KEPT UNDER THE SEAL OF HIS OFFICE SHALL BE EVIDENCE IN ANY COURT TO THE SAME EXTENT AS THE ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY AND OF NOMINATION WOULD BE IF PRODUCED AND PROVED.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1976.