

WHICH THERE WAS AUTHORIZATION IN LAW IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1978, IS CERTIFIED AND MAY NOT BE DECERTIFIED BY THE BOARD.

[(3)] (4) To constitute a depository for such election records and relevant information concerning elections as may be provided by law or by administrative practice.

[(4)] (5) To make an annual report to the General Assembly including recommended changes in this article to assure its uniform administration and improvement in the procedure for the conduct of registration, voting and elections.

16-1.

(a) [Except in Montgomery County for any election at which the use of electronically tabulated punchcard ballots has been authorized by the State Administrative Board of Election Laws pursuant to § 16A-1 of this article, the boards shall provide for the use of voting machines] THE BOARDS SHALL USE A CERTIFIED VOTING SYSTEM in all elections CONDUCTED in accordance with the provisions of this Article and under such rules and regulations as the [boards] STATE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF ELECTION LAWS may deem advisable or necessary. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW, A LOCAL BOARD MAY USE ONLY ONE VOTING SYSTEM IN ANY ELECTION UNLESS AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY THE STATE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF ELECTION LAWS. The boards may purchase, rent, lease or otherwise acquire [such number of voting machines] CERTIFIED VOTING SYSTEMS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT as may be required to [equip any and all of the polling places in the city or county, as the case may be] IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION. In the event of the leasing, rental or other acquisition of [such machines, they] A VOTING SYSTEM AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, IT shall be exempt from State, county or municipal taxation.

VOTING SYSTEMS

16B-1.

THE STATE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF ELECTION LAWS, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO IN THIS SUBTITLE AS THE "STATE BOARD," SHALL EXERCISE ITS AUTHORITY UNDER SECTION 1A-1 (E) (3) RELATING TO VOTING SYSTEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

16B-2.

(A) THE STATE BOARD SHALL PERIODICALLY REVIEW CERTIFIED VOTING SYSTEMS AND EVALUATE ALTERNATIVE SYSTEMS TO ASSURE THAT ELECTIONS ARE CONDUCTED WITH EQUIPMENT BEST DESIGNED TO:

- (1) PROTECT THE SECRECY OF THE BALLOT;