

BY renumbering

Article 33 - Election Code
Section 27-9(c), (d), (e), (f) and (g)
to be Section 27-9(e), (f), (g), (h), and (i)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1976 Replacement Volume and 1980 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 33 - Election Code

27-9.

(b) At ~~any~~ A REASONABLE time after [the closing of the polls] 4 P.M. ON THE WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING ELECTION DAY and not later than the canvass of the votes cast at the regular voting places in this State at any election, the several boards shall meet at the usual place for holding the circuit court for the county or at the usual offices of the board and shall proceed to count, certify and canvass the absentee ballots contained in the ballot envelopes ~~received by them~~ POSTMARKED prior to the closing of the polls on election day.]

(C) (1) A BALLOT SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS RECEIVED TIMELY PROVIDED:

(1) IT HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD PRIOR TO THE CLOSING OF THE POLLS ON ELECTION DAY; OR

(2) 1. IT WAS MAILED ON OR BEFORE ELECTION DAY; AND

2. THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE, OR POSTAL SERVICE OF ANY OTHER COUNTRY, HAS PROVIDED VERIFICATION OF THAT FACT BY AFFIXING A MARK SO INDICATING ON THE COVERING ENVELOPE; AND

3. THE BOARD RECEIVES THE BALLOT FROM THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE NOT LATER THAN 4 P.M. ON THE WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING ELECTION DAY.

(2) ANY BALLOT RECEIVED AFTER 4 P.M. ON THE WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING ELECTION DAY MAY NOT BE COUNTED.

(D) A ballot may not be rejected by the board except by the unanimous vote of the entire board. This canvass shall be conducted by election district or ward and precinct or by congressional, councilmanic, or legislative districts in accordance with the applicable provisions of § 14-1 of this article. Absentee ballots may not be separately