

(2) A VOTING MACHINE may be opened and the data and figures [therein] IN IT examined in the presence of the officer having the custody of such machine upon the order of any court of competent jurisdiction, or by direction of any legislative committee to investigate and report upon contested elections affected by the use of such machine.

(B) If within [two] 2 days after the results of the canvass are declared official, the board shall receive notice in writing of any contest over the result of [said] THE election, then such board, within [five] 5 days from the receipt of such notice and in the presence of the principals involved in any such contest or their authorized representatives, shall [proceed to] inspect and examine the voting machines containing the votes cast for such contested office, and shall make a record of the votes for such office upon [said] THOSE machines.

(C) Such record shall be received as evidence as fully as if proved by the oral testimony of the persons who shall sign the same, or by the production of said voting machines in court or before said board.

(D) After such inspection, examination, and recording of the results [thereof], and after permission to release the voting machines has been granted by the State Administrative Board of Election Laws, the [said] voting machines shall be released and made available for use in any succeeding election.

18-1.

(a) (1) The Secretary of State, Comptroller, State Treasurer, Clerk of the Court of Appeals and Attorney General shall constitute the Board of State Canvassers, three of whom shall be a quorum.

(2) The State Administrator of Election Laws shall serve as secretary to the Board.

(b) (1) The State Administrator of Election Laws shall convene the meeting of the Board of State Canvassers to be held at his office within [30] 35 days after any State election, or any election at which a candidate for member of the Congress of the United States is to be elected.

(2) If a majority does not attend, those present shall adjourn until the next day, at which time they shall proceed, without further delay, to canvass the votes.

(c) (1) The Board of State Canvassers, when thus formed, shall, from the certified copies of the statements made by the boards of city and county canvassers, [proceed to] make a statement of the whole number of votes given at such election for the several candidates for the federal and State offices named in the statements whose candidacy was filed with the State