

(3) If the Maryland Constitution provides that a petition shall be filed with an official or governmental body of a county, the official or governmental body, after determining that the petition is in conformance with the requirements of law, shall dispatch the petition to the local board for that county within 24 hours.

(4) A petition forwarded under paragraph (2) or (3) of this subsection shall be processed under this subtitle as if it had been filed with the election authority.

(b) The regulations adopted by the State Board may provide that the signature pages of a petition required to be filed with the State Board be delivered by the sponsor, or an individual authorized by the sponsor, to the appropriate local board or boards for verification and counting of signatures.

(c) A petition may not be accepted for filing unless the information page indicates that the petition satisfies any requirements established by law for the time of filing and for the number and geographic distribution of signatures.

(d) Subsequent to the filing of a petition under this subtitle, but prior to the deadline for filing the petition, additional signatures may be added to the petition by filing an amended information page and additional signature pages conforming to the requirements of this subtitle.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section formerly was Art. 33, § 6-205.

No changes are made.

6-206.

(a) Promptly upon the filing of a petition with an election authority, the chief election official of the election authority shall review the petition.

(b) Unless a determination of deficiency is made under subsection (c) of this section, the chief election official shall:

(1) Make a determination that the petition, as to matters other than the validity of signatures, is sufficient; or

(2) Defer a determination of sufficiency pending further review.

(c) The chief election official shall declare that the petition is deficient if the chief election official determines that:

(1) The petition was not timely filed;

(2) After providing the sponsor an opportunity to correct any clerical errors, the information provided by the sponsor indicates that the petition does not satisfy any requirements of law for the number or geographic distribution of signatures;

(3) An examination of unverified signatures indicates that the petition does not satisfy any requirements of law for the number or geographic distribution of signatures;