

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 33 - Election Code

26-12.

(a) The forms for the "Report or Statement of Campaign and Election Contributions and Expenditures" and the "Schedule of Receipts and Disbursements" shall be prescribed by the State Administrative Board of Election Laws.

(b) A candidate or candidates for election or elected to a public office of the United States shall file a copy of each statement required by federal laws or regulations with the State Administrative Board of Election Laws. Additional campaign report filings by the candidate are not required.

(c) (1) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, beginning with the campaign finance report that is due in November 1997, all campaign finance reports required under § 26-11 of this article which must be filed with the State Administrative Board of Election Laws may be submitted to and maintained by the State Board in an electronic storage format.

(ii) Beginning with the campaign finance report that is due in November 1997, all campaign finance reports that are required under § 26-11 of this article which must be filed with the State Board by a statewide candidate and any political committee affiliated with the candidate shall be submitted to and maintained by the State Board in an electronic storage format.

(2) (i) The State Administrative Board of Election Laws shall accept any campaign finance report that is submitted in an electronic storage format which meets the criteria developed by the State Board under subsection (f) of this section.

(ii) Beginning in November 1997, the State Board shall make the campaign finance information that is submitted in an electronic storage format available to the public by making the computer disk submitted by the candidate or committee available for duplication.

(d) (1) Beginning with the campaign finance report due in November 1999, all campaign finance reports required under § 26-11 of this article which must be filed with the State Board shall be submitted and maintained by the State Board in an electronic storage format.

(2) Beginning in November 1999, upon request, the State Administrative Board of Election Laws shall supply to a person who is required to file reports in an electronic storage format the computer software and the disks or other media on which the campaign finance information is to be entered.

(3) Beginning in November 1999, the State Administrative Board of Election Laws shall make the campaign finance information that is filed with and maintained by the State Board in an electronic storage format widely and easily