

109--C

R. R. 172

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 9, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. KAVANAGH -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law -- reported and referred to the Committee on Rules -- Rules Committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to the Committee on Rules -- amended on the special order of third reading, ordered reprinted as amended, retaining its place on the special order of third reading -- again amended on special order of third reading, ordered reprinted, retaining its place on the special order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to canvass procedures; and to repeal section 9-128 of the election law relating thereto

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "election
2 night poll site procedures act of 2013".
3 S 2. Section 9-100 of the election law, as amended by chapter 234 of
4 the laws of 1976, is amended to read as follows:
5 S 9-100. Canvass; required. At the close of the polls the inspectors
6 of election shall, in the order set forth herein, [lock the machine
7 against voting] CLOSE POLLS, account for the paper ballots, canvass the
8 machine, cast and canvass all the ballots, canvass and ascertain the
9 total vote and they shall not adjourn until the canvass be fully
10 completed.
11 S 3. Section 9-102 of the election law, subdivision 1 as amended by
12 section 2, subdivision 2 as amended by section 3, paragraph (a) of
13 subdivision 2 as amended by section 4 and subdivision 3 as amended by
14 section 5 of chapter 163 of the laws of 2010, subdivisions 4 and 6 as
15 amended by chapter 9 of the laws of 1978, is amended to read as follows:
16 S 9-102. Canvass; general provisions for. 1. [As] EXCEPT IN THE CITY
17 OF NEW YORK, AS soon as the polls of the election are closed, the
18 inspectors of election thereat shall, in the order set forth herein;

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 [a.)) (A) place an inspector at the ballot scanner to prevent further
2 voting; [b.)) (B) reconcile the paper ballots pursuant to section 9-106
3 of this title; [c.)) (C) remove surplus ballots, if any, pursuant to
4 section 9-108 of this title; [d.)) (D) scan the ballots contained in the
5 emergency box or other secure storage container pursuant to section
6 9-110 of this title; [e.)) (E) hand count and secure ballots that cannot
7 be scanned pursuant to section 9-110 of this title; [f.)) (F) close the
8 poll, print the tabulated [result] RESULTS tape, announce the result and
9 sign the return of canvass pursuant to subdivisions 2 and 3 of this
10 section; [g.)) (G) close, lock and seal the machine; and [h.)) (H) sign
11 the close of poll certificate, as provided by the board of elections.

12 1-A. IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, AS SOON AS THE POLLS OF THE ELECTION ARE
13 CLOSED, THE INSPECTORS OF ELECTION THEREAT SHALL, IN THE ORDER SET FORTH
14 HEREIN: (A) PLACE AN INSPECTOR AT THE BALLOT SCANNER TO PREVENT FURTHER
15 VOTING; (B) SCAN THE BALLOTS CONTAINED IN THE EMERGENCY BOX OR OTHER
16 SECURE STORAGE CONTAINER PURSUANT TO SECTION 9-110 OF THIS TITLE, UNLESS
17 IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE WHICH SUCH BALLOTS SHOULD BE SO SCANNED
18 BECAUSE THE ACCOUNTING AND RECONCILIATION REQUIRED BY SECTION 9-106 OF
19 THIS TITLE CANNOT BE COMPLETED WITHOUT FIRST PRINTING THE RESULTS TAPE;
20 (C) INITIATE THE BALLOT SCANNER'S CLOSE THE POLL MECHANISM, PRINT THE
21 TABULATED RESULTS TAPE, AND POST THE RESULTS TAPE OR ANNOUNCE ITS
22 CONTENTS OR BOTH; (D) REMOVE ONE OF THE PORTABLE MEMORY DEVICES FROM THE
23 BALLOT SCANNER FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORTING THE UNOFFICIAL TALLY OF
24 ELECTION RESULTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 9-126 OF THIS TITLE; (E) RECONCILE
25 THE PAPER BALLOTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 9-106 OF THIS TITLE; (F) REMOVE
26 SURPLUS BALLOTS, IF ANY, PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SECTION 9-108 OF
27 THIS TITLE; (G) HAND COUNT AND SECURE BALLOTS THAT CANNOT BE SCANNED
28 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SECTION 9-110 OF THIS TITLE; (H) POST OR
29 ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF ANY HAND COUNTS AND SIGN THE RETURN OF CANVASS
30 PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISIONS TWO AND THREE OF THIS SECTION; (I) CLOSE, LOCK
31 AND SEAL THE MACHINE; AND (J) SIGN THE CLOSE OF POLL CERTIFICATE, AS
32 PROVIDED BY THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

33 2. (a) The inspectors shall canvass the [machine vote by printing the]
34 ballot scanner tabulated RESULTS BY PRINTING THE results tape in the
35 presence of the watchers and all other persons who may be lawfully with-
36 in the polling place, giving full view of the tabulated [result] RESULTS
37 tape numbers. [The chair of the board of inspectors] AN INSPECTOR shall,
38 under the scrutiny of an inspector of a different political party,
39 EITHER POST THE RESULTS TAPE OR READ AND ANNOUNCE in the order of the
40 offices as their titles are arranged on the tabulated [result] RESULTS
41 tape, [read and announce] in distinct tones the public office or party
42 position, candidate name, political party and the [result] RESULTS as
43 shown on the tabulated [result] RESULTS tape and then shall announce the
44 [aggregate] number of write-in votes recorded for each office. The
45 [chair] INSPECTORS shall also in the same manner POST OR announce the
46 [vote on] RESULTS FOR each ballot proposal.

47 (B) The results on the tabulated [result] RESULTS tape shall be
48 entered on or the tabulated [result] RESULTS tape (REPRESENTING THE
49 AGGREGATE RESULTS OF VOTES CAST ON THE BALLOT SCANNER OR THE RESULTS BY
50 ELECTION DISTRICT AS APPLICABLE) shall be affixed to the return of
51 canvass for that ballot scanner or election district pursuant to section
52 9-120 of this title by an inspector[,] under the scrutiny of an inspec-
53 tor of a different political party, in the space indicated[; provided,
54 however, if]. IF any election day paper ballots were hand counted pursu-
55 ant to THIS SECTION AND subdivision two of section 9-110 of this title,
56 [the results] AN INSPECTOR SHALL, UNDER THE SCRUTINY OF AN INSPECTOR OF

1 A DIFFERENT POLITICAL PARTY, EITHER POST OR READ AND ANNOUNCE THE
2 RESULTS OF SUCH HAND COUNT. THE TALLY SHEET of ANY such hand counting
3 shall be SIGNED BY THE INSPECTORS CONDUCTING SAME AND AFFIXED TO OR
4 recorded on the return of canvass [and be added to the numbers reported
5 from the tabulated results tape to produce a single total result for
6 each candidate and ballot proposal]. The return of canvass[, which shall
7 show the aggregate number of votes cast for each office, the number of
8 votes cast for each candidate appearing on the ballot for each office
9 and the aggregate number of write-in votes for each office, shall then
10 be filled out. Such return] and tabulated [result] RESULTS tape shall be
11 signed by TWO INSPECTORS OF each [inspector] MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY.

12 [(b)] (C) The [printed or photographic record produced by such
13 machine] RESULTS TAPE shall include a certificate which the inspectors
14 shall sign, stating the number of voters as shown on the public counter
15 and the number on the protective counter.

16 [(c)] (D) If the machine is provided with a removable electronic or
17 computerized device which records the total of the votes cast on such
18 machine (SUCH DEVICE, FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION A "PORTABLE MEMORY
19 DEVICE"), such device shall be removed from the machine after copies of
20 the [printed record] RESULTS TAPE, sufficient to meet the requirements
21 of this chapter and the regulations of the board of elections, have been
22 produced. After the PORTABLE MEMORY device is removed from the machine,
23 the inspectors shall place such device in the secure envelope or other
24 secure container provided for its return to the board of elections. Such
25 secure container shall be signed by the inspectors upon the securing of
26 the device therein.

27 3. (a) During the canvass time any candidate or duly accredited watch-
28 er who may desire to be present shall be admitted to the polling place.
29 During the proclamation of the result, ample opportunity shall be given
30 to any person lawfully present to compare the results so announced with
31 the sum of the votes appearing on the tabulated [result] RESULTS tape
32 and any hand counted election day ballots, if any, and any necessary
33 corrections shall then and there be made on the return of canvass by the
34 inspectors. Thereafter, the voting machine shall be closed and locked.
35 The first copy of the [printed record] RESULTS TAPE for each voting
36 machine should be posted on the wall of the polling place forthwith;
37 provided, however, that if only one copy of such [printed record]
38 RESULTS TAPE can be printed by any such machine at any election, such
39 copy shall be used in preparation of the [statement of] returns OF
40 CANVASS required by this title.

41 (b) Election day paper ballots that have not been scanned shall be
42 canvassed and tallied pursuant to THIS SECTION AND sections 9-108 and
43 9-110 of this title.

44 (c) At a primary election, the ballots of the parties represented on
45 the board of inspectors shall be canvassed before the ballots of other
46 parties are canvassed.

47 4. All types of ballots, enclosed in properly sealed envelopes respec-
48 tively, and properly endorsed shall be filed with the original return of
49 canvass, AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 9-106 OF THIS TITLE.

50 5. The inspector OR OTHER COURIER ASSIGNED BY THE BOARD filing the
51 returns shall deliver to the board or officer from whom received, the
52 keys of the voting machine, enclosed in a sealed envelope having
53 indorsed thereon a certificate of the inspectors stating the number of
54 the machine, the election [district, ward or assembly district]
55 DISTRICT(S), WARD(S) OR ASSEMBLY DISTRICT(S) where it has been used, the
56 number on the seal and the number on the protective counter. IN THE

1 CITY OF NEW YORK, POLICE OFFICERS OR PEACE OFFICERS DESIGNATED BY THE
2 POLICE COMMISSIONER OF SUCH CITY SHALL PROVIDE SUCH DELIVERY OF THE
3 DEVICES.

4 6. The room in which such canvass is made shall be clearly lighted,
5 ingress and egress through the main entrance thereto shall be freely
6 permitted, and such canvass shall be made in plain view of those enti-
7 tled to be present. The ballots shall at all times be kept on top of the
8 table and in plain view of all persons entitled to examine them, until
9 they have been [tied into bundles] RE-PACKAGED AND SEALED FOR RETURN TO
10 THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS as elsewhere provided. If requested by any person
11 entitled to be present the inspectors shall, during the canvass of any
12 ballots, exhibit to him OR HER the ballot then being canvassed, fully
13 opened and in such a condition that he OR SHE may fully and carefully
14 read and examine it, but no inspector shall allow any ballot to be taken
15 from his OR HER hand or to be touched by any person but an inspector.

16 S 4. Section 9-106 of the election law, as amended by chapter 163 of
17 the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

18 S 9-106. Official ballots; accounting for number used. [At the close
19 of] AFTER the polls OF THE ELECTION ARE CLOSED and before any boxes or
20 [envelope] ENVELOPES containing voted ballots are opened, the clerks, or
21 if there be no clerks, two inspectors representing different parties
22 designated by the chair, shall account for all of the paper ballots
23 furnished to the election district OR POLL SITE. On a reconciliation
24 form supplied by the board of elections, they shall count, verify and
25 record on such form the number of unused ballots, the number of ballots
26 [cancelled] SPOILED before delivery to voters in the poll site, the
27 number of ballots spoiled and returned by voters and the number of affi-
28 davit ballots cast. These numbers shall be added to the number of
29 ballots cast as recorded by the public counter number appearing on the
30 ballot scanner [screen] SCREEN(S) OR RESULTS TAPE(S). The sum shall be
31 recorded on the ballot reconciliation form. This resulting number shall
32 be deducted from the number of ballots originally delivered to the
33 ELECTION DISTRICT OR poll site, and the remainder number shall be deter-
34 mined to be the number of ballots secured in the emergency ballot [box]
35 BOX(ES) or other secure storage [container] CONTAINER(S) provided by the
36 board of elections. This remainder number shall be recorded on the
37 ballot reconciliation form[.

38 Such]. IF SUCH REMAINDER NUMBER IS ZERO AND THERE ARE NO BALLOTS IN
39 THE EMERGENCY BALLOT BOX(ES) OR OTHER SUCH SECURE CONTAINER(S), INSPEC-
40 TORS SHALL INITIATE THE BALLOT SCANNERS' CLOSE THE POLLS MECHANISM AND
41 PRODUCE RESULTS TAPES, UNLESS IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK SUCH SCANNERS'
42 CLOSE THE POLLS MECHANISM HAS ALREADY BEEN INITIATED AND THE RESULTS
43 TAPES ALREADY PRODUCED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (C) OF SUBDIVISION ONE-A OF
44 SECTION 9-102 OF THIS TITLE. THE clerks or inspectors shall then sepa-
45 rate, label and place each type of ballot in the box or container
46 provided by the board of elections, and securely lock or seal each such
47 box or container. They shall then sign such reconciliation form. IF
48 SUCH REMAINDER NUMBER IS NOT ZERO OR THERE ARE UNSCANNED VOTED ELECTION
49 DAY BALLOTS IN THE EMERGENCY BALLOT BOX(ES) OR OTHER SUCH SECURE
50 CONTAINER(S), THE INSPECTORS OR CLERKS SHALL PROCEED WITH THE PROCESS
51 PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 9-108 AND 9-110 OF THIS TITLE. UPON COMPLETION
52 OF SUCH PROCESS, THE CLERKS OR INSPECTORS SHALL THEN SEPARATE, LABEL AND
53 PLACE EACH TYPE OF BALLOT IN THE BOX(ES) OR CONTAINER(S) PROVIDED BY THE
54 BOARD OF ELECTIONS, AND SECURELY LOCK OR SEAL EACH SUCH BOX(ES) OR
55 CONTAINER(S). THEY SHALL THEN SIGN SUCH AMENDED RECONCILIATION FORM.

1 S 5. Subdivision 2 of section 9-108 of the election law is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 2. If the ballots found in any box shall be more than the number of
4 ballots so shown to have been deposited therein, such ballots shall all
5 be replaced, without being unfolded, in the box from which they were
6 taken, and shall be thoroughly mingled therein, and one of the inspec-
7 tors shall, with his OR HER back to the box, publicly draw out as many
8 ballots as shall be equal to such excess and, without unfolding them
9 forthwith shall enclose them in an envelope which he OR SHE shall then
10 and there seal and endorse "excess ballots [from the box for ballots]
11 for the general election, presidential electors, or party ballots or
12 otherwise", as the case may be, and shall sign his OR HER name thereto,
13 and place such envelope in the box for defective or spoiled ballots.

14 S 6. Section 9-110 of the election law, as amended by chapter 163 of
15 the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

16 S 9-110. Canvass; election day paper ballots that have not been
17 scanned; method of. 1. Election day paper ballots that have not been
18 scanned because a ballot scanner was not available or because the ballot
19 has been abandoned by a voter at the ballot scanner shall be canvassed
20 as follows: a bipartisan team of inspectors shall cast such ballots on a
21 ballot scanner, if one is available, at the close of the polls before
22 the tabulated [result] RESULTS tape is printed. If a ballot does not
23 scan because of an overvote or blank ballot warning on the ballot scan-
24 ner screen, the inspectors shall cause the ballot scanner to eject such
25 ballot to be hand counted pursuant to subdivision two of this section.

26 2. Election day paper ballots that cannot be scanned, as provided in
27 SUBDIVISION ONE OR ONE-A OF SECTION 9-102 OF THIS TITLE AS APPLICABLE
28 AND subdivision one of this section shall be canvassed as follows: The
29 inspectors shall unfold each ballot of the kind then to be canvassed and
30 shall place all such ballots upon the table in one pile face down. The
31 chair shall take up each ballot in order, turn it face up and announce
32 loudly and distinctly the vote registered on each section, in the order
33 of the sections upon the ballot, or that the ballot is void or the
34 section blank, as the case may be. If more than one person is to be
35 elected to the same office or party position the chair, if the ballot is
36 void or the ballot or section is wholly blank, shall announce as many
37 void or blank votes as there are persons to be elected to the office or
38 party position. On a primary ballot a "section," as the term is used
39 above, shall mean the space occupied by the title of an office or party
40 position, names of candidates therefor and the voting squares therewith.
41 The canvass of each ballot must be completed before the next ballot is
42 taken up. When the tallies of the votes of all such ballots are proven,
43 and the results announced, the [inspectors'] INSPECTORS shall AFFIX
44 TALLY SHEETS TO OR record the results FROM SAME on the return of
45 canvass.

46 3. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require or permit
47 affidavit ballots to be canvassed at the poll site on election day.

48 S 7. Section 9-112 of the election law, subdivisions 1, 2, 4 and 5 as
49 amended by chapter 352 of the laws of 1986, subdivision 6 as amended by
50 chapter 647 of the laws of 1982, is amended to read as follows:

51 S 9-112. Canvass ballots; validity of ballot. 1. The whole ballot is
52 void if the voter (a) does any act extrinsic to the ballot such as
53 enclosing any paper or other article in the folded ballot or (b) defaces
54 or tears the ballot except that a ballot card which is in perforated
55 sections shall not be void because it has been separated into sections
56 or (c) makes any erasure thereon or (d) makes any mark thereon other

1 than a cross X mark or a check V mark in a voting square, or filling in
2 the voting square, or [punching a hole in the voting square of a ballot
3 intended to be counted by machine or] (e) writes, other than in the
4 space provided, a name for the purpose of voting; except that an erasure
5 or a mark other than a valid mark made in a voting square shall not make
6 the ballot void, but shall render it blank as to the office, party posi-
7 tion or ballot proposal in connection with which it is made. No ballot
8 shall be declared void or partially blank because a mark thereon is
9 irregular in form. The term "voting square" shall include the voting
10 space provided for a voter to mark his OR HER vote for a candidate or
11 ballot proposal.

12 2. A cross X mark or a check V mark, made by the voter, in a voting
13 square at the left of a candidate's name, or the voter's filling in such
14 voting square, or punching a hole in the voting square of a ballot
15 intended to be counted by machine, shall be counted as a vote for such
16 candidate.

17 3. A vote shall be counted for a person whose name is written in under
18 the title of an office or party position only if such name is written by
19 the voter upon the ballot in the proper space provided therefor and only
20 if such name is not printed under the title of such office or position.
21 A voting mark before or after such written in name shall not invalidate
22 the vote.

23 4. If, in the case of a candidate whose name appears on the ballot
24 more than once for the same office, the voter shall make a cross X mark
25 or a check V mark in each of two or more voting squares before the
26 candidate's name, or fill in TWO OR MORE such voting squares [or punch
27 out the hole in two or more voting squares of a ballot intended to be
28 counted by machine,] only the first vote shall be counted for such
29 candidate. If such vote was cast for the office of governor, such vote
30 shall not be recorded in the tally sheet or returns in a separate place
31 on the tally sheet as a vote not for any particular party or independent
32 body.

33 5. If a voter makes a cross X mark or a check V mark in a voting
34 square following the word "Yes" or the word "No", before a ballot
35 proposal, or fills in such square, [or punches out the hole in a voting
36 square of a ballot intended to be counted by machine,] such mark shall
37 be counted in the affirmative or negative, as so indicated.

38 6. If the voter marks more names than there are persons to be elected
39 or nominated for an office, or elected to a party position, or makes a
40 mark in a place or manner not herein provided for, or if for any reason
41 it is impossible to determine the voter's choice of a candidate or
42 candidates for an office or party position or his OR HER vote upon a
43 ballot proposal, his OR HER vote shall not be counted for such office or
44 position or upon the ballot proposal, but shall be returned as a blank
45 vote thereon.

46 S 8. Section 9-114 of the election law, subdivision 1 as amended by
47 chapter 647 of the laws of 1982, is amended to read as follows:

48 S 9-114. Counting ballots; objections to. 1. If objection be made to
49 the counting of any ballot or as to any section of any such ballot, the
50 board of inspectors shall forthwith and [for] BEFORE canvassing any
51 other ballot or section thereof, rule upon the objection. If the
52 objection be continued after this ruling, the [chairman] CHAIR UNDER THE
53 SCRUTINY OF THE OPPOSITE PARTY shall write in ink upon the back of the
54 ballot a memorandum of the ruling and objection. The memorandum of the
55 ruling shall be in the words "Counted void", or "Counted blank", or
56 "Counted for (naming the candidate or candidates or the presidential

1 ticket)", or, in the case of a ballot proposal "Counted for Proposal
2 No.....," or "Counted against Proposal No.....", as the case may
3 be. The memorandum of the objection shall be in the words "Objected to",
4 followed by a brief statement of the nature of the objection, the name
5 and address of the challenger and the signature of the [chairman] CHAIR
6 OR INSPECTOR.

7 2. Any ballot to which objection is not taken but which is wholly
8 blank or is void shall be indorsed in ink by the [chairman] CHAIR of the
9 board of inspectors OR AN INSPECTOR UNDER THE SCRUTINY OF AN INSPECTOR
10 OF THE OPPOSITE PARTY with the words "Wholly blank" or "Void", as the
11 case may be, and signed by the [chairman] CHAIR OR INSPECTOR.

12 3. When all the ballots of any one kind shall have been canvassed, the
13 inspectors shall ascertain the total number of [wholly blank and void]
14 ALL SUCH ballots and the number of ballots [as] to which any objection
15 was taken and shall enter such numbers in the place provided therefor in
16 the inspectors' returns of such canvass.

17 S 9. Subdivision 1 of section 9-116 of the election law, as amended by
18 chapter 13 of the laws of 1988, is amended to read as follows:

19 1. As each vote for any office or position, or upon any ballot
20 proposal, is announced, a clerk, or, if there be no clerks, an inspec-
21 tor, under the scrutiny of a clerk or inspector of opposite political
22 [faith] PARTY immediately shall tally it in [black] ink, with a downward
23 stroke from right to left upon the official tally sheet. Each such clerk
24 or inspector, as he OR SHE tallies a vote, shall announce clearly the
25 name of the person for whom he OR SHE tallies it, or that he OR SHE
26 tallies the vote blank or void as the case may be, or, in the case of a
27 ballot proposal, that he OR SHE tallies the vote "yes" or "no". When the
28 name of a person voted for is not printed on the tally sheet, such
29 clerks or inspectors shall write it in full thereon in ink in the place
30 provided therefor.

31 S 10. Section 9-120 of the election law, subdivision 1 as amended by
32 chapter 262 of the laws of 1986, is amended to read as follows:

33 S 9-120. Returns of canvass; generally. 1. Upon completing the
34 canvass, the inspectors shall prepare their returns of the canvass[.
35 They shall use therefor the] ON A printed form supplied to them [and, at
36 an election which was not conducted on a voting machine which produces a
37 printed or photographic record, they shall carefully insert thereon, in
38 ink, the appropriate names, words and figures according to the
39 directions printed in the form provided by this chapter] BY THE BOARD OF
40 ELECTIONS. The [printed or photographic record produced by the voting
41 machine] RESULTS TAPE(S) and the tally [sheets] SHEET(S) for any office,
42 party position or ballot proposal, if separate from [the statement of
43 return] SUCH FORM, shall be securely attached by the [chairman] CHAIR OR
44 AN INSPECTOR UNDER THE SCRUTINY OF AN INSPECTOR OF THE OPPOSITE PARTY to
45 such [statement of] FORM returns AND IT SHALL NOT BE NECESSARY TO TRAN-
46 SCRIBE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SUCH RESULTS TAPES ONTO SUCH FORM. [A
47 printed or photographic record] RESULTS TAPE(S) or a tally [sheet]
48 SHEET(S), when so annexed, or forming part of the same paper as the
49 return, shall be treated as part of the return. The inspectors, and
50 clerks, if any, shall subscribe in ink the certificate at the end of the
51 set of returns. Each set of returns shall be securely sealed in an
52 envelope properly endorsed on the outside by the inspectors. At an
53 election at which voting machines are not used, the ballot boxes, if
54 any, supplied by the board of elections, may when securely locked be
55 used instead of sealed envelopes.

2. The form for the return or returns of the canvass shall be printed in a [form] FORMAT approved by the state board of elections. THE FORM OF SUCH RETURN OF CANVASS SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES FOR EACH CANDIDATE IN EACH CONTEST, OR UPON EACH BALLOT PROPOSAL, INCLUDING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF UNSCANNED VOTED BALLOTS CANVASSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 9-110 OF THIS TITLE.

3. IN THE EVENT THAT THERE IS MORE THAN ONE ELECTION DISTRICT AT A POLLING PLACE, THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS MAY AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ONE OR MORE RETURNS OF CANVASS THAT CONSOLIDATE THE REPORT OF THE NUMBER OF VOTES FOR EACH CANDIDATE, OR UPON EACH BALLOT PROPOSAL, FOR MORE THAN ONE ELECTION DISTRICT OR MORE THAN ONE BALLOT SCANNER, PROVIDED THAT SUCH CONSOLIDATED RETURNS OF CANVASS HAVE ATTACHED TO THEM THE RESULTS TAPE(S) PRODUCED BY THE BALLOT SCANNER(S) THAT IDENTIFY THE NUMBER OF VOTES FOR EACH CANDIDATE, OR UPON EACH BALLOT PROPOSAL, WITHIN EACH SUCH ELECTION DISTRICT AND EACH SUCH BALLOT SCANNER.

S 11. Section 9-122 of the election law, as amended by chapter 647 of the laws of 1982, is amended to read as follows:

S 9-122. Proclamation of result. Upon the completion of the canvass and of the returns of the canvass, the [chairman] CHAIR of the board of inspectors OR AN INSPECTOR UNDER THE SCRUTINY OF AN INSPECTOR OF THE OPPOSITE PARTY shall make public oral proclamation of the [whole] TOTAL number of votes cast at the election at the polling place for all candidates for each office, or, if it be a primary election, the [whole] TOTAL number of party votes of each party so cast for all candidates for each office or party position; upon each ballot proposal, if any[; the whole number of votes given for each person, with the title of the office or party position for which he was named on the ballot; and the whole number of votes given, respectively, for and against each such ballot proposal, if any] AND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF WRITE-IN VOTES RECORDED FOR EACH OFFICE. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO SUCH ORAL PROCLAMATION, SUCH CHAIR OR INSPECTOR MAY CAUSE TO BE POSTED THE RESULTS TAPE(S), TALLY SHEET(S), AND ANY OTHER MATERIALS NECESSARY TO ASCERTAIN SUCH TOTAL NUMBERS OF VOTES CAST.

S 12. Section 9-124 of the election law, as amended by chapter 9 of the laws of 1978, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 659 of the laws of 1994, subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 413 of the laws of 1991, and subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 91 of the laws of 1992, is amended to read as follows:

S 9-124. Returns of canvass, procedure after. 1. After the returns of the canvass are made out and signed, the inspectors shall enclose the protested[,] AND void [and wholly blank] ballots and the ballots cast in affidavit envelopes in a separate sealed envelope or envelopes and endorse thereon a certificate signed by each of them stating the number of the district and the number of ballots contained in such envelope or envelopes. THE INSPECTORS SHALL ENCLOSE THE UNSCANNED VOTED BALLOTS CANVASSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 9-110 OF THIS TITLE IN A SEPARATE SEALED ENVELOPE AND ENDORSE THEREON A CERTIFICATE SIGNED BY EACH OF THEM STATING THE NUMBER OF THE DISTRICT AND THE NUMBER OF BALLOTS CONTAINED IN SUCH ENVELOPE. The inspectors shall then [tie up] PACKAGE and seal the other voted ballots and [return] PLACE them [to the ballot box which contained them] IN ONE OR MORE BOXES OR CONTAINERS, AND INCLUDE WITHIN SUCH BOXES OR CONTAINERS ONE PORTABLE MEMORY DEVICE FROM EACH BALLOT SCANNER PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (D) OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION 9-102 OF THIS TITLE, AND ANY ABSENTEE, MILITARY, SPECIAL FEDERAL, OR SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL BALLOTS WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE POLL SITE DURING ELECTION DAY, and securely lock and seal [the box, except that at

elections in which voting machines are used, absentee and military, special federal, special presidential and emergency ballots and stubs, if any, shall be sealed in the envelope or envelopes provided therefor] SUCH BOXES OR CONTAINERS. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PRECEDING SENTENCE, SUCH PORTABLE MEMORY DEVICE FROM EACH BALLOT SCANNER WITH THE CORRESPONDING RESULTS TAPE MAY BE ENCLOSED IN A SEALED CONTAINER AND TRANSPORTED PRIOR TO AND SEPARATELY FROM OTHER MATERIALS REFERENCED IN THIS SECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF USING SUCH DEVICE TO PROVIDE AN UNOFFICIAL TALLY OF RESULTS AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 9-126 OF THIS TITLE.

2. Each box [or], envelope, OR CONTAINER containing the ballots and stubs, if any, AND ALL ITEMS DESCRIBED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION shall be deposited by an inspector designated for that purpose with the officer or board from whom or which the board of inspectors received it[, together with the separate sealed package of unused ballots]. In the city of New York, every SUCH box [or], envelope [containing any ballots or stubs and the package of unused ballots], OR CONTAINER shall be delivered at the polling place[, at the conclusion of the canvass,] to [the] police or peace [officer] OFFICERS DESIGNATED BY THE POLICE COMMISSIONER OF SUCH CITY, who shall deposit them with the board of elections.

3. [The books, returns and other papers enumerated below shall be disposed of as follows, except as otherwise provided:

(a) In a city or town, except the city of New York and in a village in which elections are conducted by the board of elections, the] (A) EXCEPT IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, THE registration poll records or computer generated registration lists, the returns OF CANVASS with RESULTS TAPES AND tally sheets, IF ANY, annexed, the [absentee and military, special federal, special presidential and emergency] VOTED ballots, stubs, OPENED PACKAGES OF UNUSED BALLOTS and ballot envelopes, ANY ABSENTEE, MILITARY, SPECIAL FEDERAL, OR SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL BALLOTS WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE POLL SITE DURING ELECTION DAY, the challenge records and the package of protested[, AND void [and wholly blank] ballots shall be filed with the board of elections[, and the flag shall be returned to it].

(b) Records and supplies to be filed with a city, town or village clerk shall be so filed or delivered immediately after the completion of the returns of the canvass, by an inspector designated by the board of inspectors. Returns, papers and registration poll records or computer generated registration lists to be filed with the board of elections shall be so filed by the chairman of the board of inspectors within twenty-four hours after the completion of such returns. The person receiving such returns in the board of elections shall give to the person delivering the returns a receipt stating therein the date and hour of delivery, the name of the person making the delivery, and to whom said returns were delivered and shall keep a duplicate of said receipt on file in the office of the board of elections.

(c) The county legislative body of any county in the state except the counties comprising the city of New York may, by a resolution, ordinance or act as required, provide that all returns, papers, registration poll records or computer generated registration lists, books, records, documents, and other election supplies and materials shall be filed by the chairman of the board of inspectors of elections in a city or town and in a village in which elections are conducted by the board of elections, with the city, town or village clerk of such city, town or village in the county within eighteen hours after the closing of the polls at any primary, general, special or village election and the city, town or

1 village clerk upon receiving such returns, papers, registers or lists,
2 books, records, documents, and other election supplies and materials
3 shall give to the person making the delivery, a receipt stating therein
4 the date and hour of the delivery and the name of such person. Within
5 twenty-four hours after the closing of the polls at any primary, gener-
6 al, special or village election, the city, town or village clerk shall
7 file all returns, papers, registration poll records or computer gener-
8 ated registration lists, books, records, documents and other election
9 supplies and materials filed with him by the inspectors of the election
10 districts of the city, town or village, with the board of elections of
11 the county and the board of elections shall give to the city, town or
12 village clerk a receipt therefor stating therein the date and hour of
13 the delivery and the name of the person making the delivery and to whom
14 it was made, and shall keep a duplicate of said receipt on file in the
15 office of the board of elections.

16 (d) In the city of New York, the board of inspectors[,] shall deliver
17 to [the] police or peace [officer] OFFICERS DESIGNATED BY THE POLICE
18 COMMISSIONER OF SUCH CITY, at the polling place the registration poll
19 records or computer generated registration lists, challenge report,
20 records, keys, [the flag,] other election supplies, INCLUDING TWO COPIES
21 OF the returns of the canvass and [the] ANY absentee [and], military,
22 special federal, OR special presidential [and emergency ballots,]
23 BALLOTS WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE POLL SITE DURING ELECTION
24 DAY, VOTED BALLOTS, stubs, OPEN PACKAGES OF UNUSED BALLOTS and ballot
25 envelopes. [The] SUCH police or peace [officer] OFFICERS shall file the
26 returns, the package of void[,] AND protested [and wholly blank]
27 ballots, if any, and the absentee [and], military, special federal,
28 special presidential, and emergency ballots, stubs and ballot envelopes,
29 if any, within twenty-four hours after the close of the polls, in the
30 office of the board of elections or its branch office within the
31 borough, as the case may be.

32 S 13. Section 9-126 of the election law, the section heading as
33 amended by chapter 9 of the laws of 1978, subdivision 1 and paragraph
34 (a) of subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 647 of the laws of 1982,
35 subdivision 3 as added by chapter 262 of the laws of 1986, and paragraph
36 (b) of subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 356 of the laws of 1986, is
37 amended to read as follows:

38 S 9-126. [Return of canvass; delivery of results to police and unoffi-
39 cial] UNOFFICIAL tally of election results. 1. In an election district
40 [of a city and] of the county of Nassau, the [chairman] CHAIR of the
41 board of inspectors, upon the completion of the return of canvass, and
42 the announcement thereof in a primary or general election, shall deliver
43 to the police officer on duty at the polling place a statement signed by
44 the board of inspectors stating the number of votes received by each
45 person voted for and the number of votes cast for and the number of
46 votes cast against each ballot proposal. Such officer forthwith shall
47 convey the statement to the stationhouse of the police precinct in which
48 such place of canvass is located, and shall deliver it inviolate to the
49 officer in command thereof, who shall immediately transmit by telegraph,
50 telephone or messenger, the contents of such statement to the officer
51 commanding the police department of such [city or] county who shall
52 immediately make the contents of such statement available for the press.
53 [In the city of New York and the county of Nassau the chairman] THE
54 CHAIR of the board of inspectors in each election district OF SUCH COUN-
55 TY shall make two copies of the statement hereinbefore provided for,
56 which shall be taken to the police station, whence one such copy shall

1 be transmitted without delay to police headquarters, or such other
2 location as may be designated by the officer commanding the police
3 department, where it shall be made immediately available to the press
4 for purposes of tabulation. The other copy shall be transmitted within
5 twenty-four hours to the board of elections. All statements made pursu-
6 ant to this section shall be preserved for six months by the police and
7 shall be presumptive evidence of the result of such canvass.

8 2. (a) [In an election district outside of a city, except] EXCEPT in
9 the county of Nassau, the [chairman] CHAIR of the board of inspectors,
10 upon completion of the return of canvass and the announcement thereof,
11 in a general or primary election, shall immediately communicate such
12 results by telephone, or delivery, to the [county] board of elections.
13 Such results shall include the number of votes received by each person
14 voted for and the number of votes cast for and against each ballot
15 proposal.

16 (b) The [county] board of elections shall remain open after the close
17 of the polls and shall receive and tabulate the voting results [from
18 throughout the county] as they are received. The board OF ELECTIONS
19 shall MAKE SUCH UNOFFICIAL RESULTS AVAILABLE TO THE MEDIA AND THE STATE
20 BOARD OF ELECTIONS, AND SHALL post running totals in a public place AND
21 ON THE INTERNET as the results become known to it.

22 [(c)] 3. The results made public pursuant to this section [are to]
23 SHALL be released as the unofficial tally [and shall not be admissible
24 in evidence in any action or proceeding contesting the result of any
25 election].

26 [(d) Any police department of a city outside the city of New York and
27 the county of Nassau receiving statements as provided in subdivision one
28 of this section shall immediately communicate the contents thereof to
29 the county board of elections at a location designated by it. In lieu of
30 requiring the delivery of statements to the police in cities outside of
31 the city of New York and the county of Nassau as provided in subdivision
32 one of this section, a]

33 4. A county board of elections may require the [chairman] CHAIR of the
34 board of inspectors in each election district [within such a city to
35 make a return of the vote pursuant to the provisions of this subdivi-
36 sion] TO REPORT UNOFFICIAL ELECTION NIGHT RESULTS BY TELEPHONE, FAX OR
37 OTHER MEANS. SUCH RESULTS SHALL INCLUDE THE TOTAL AGGREGATE NUMBER OF
38 VOTES RECEIVED BY EACH PERSON VOTED FOR, THE TOTAL AGGREGATE NUMBER OF
39 WRITE-INS AND THE NUMBER OF VOTES CAST FOR AND AGAINST EACH BALLOT
40 PROPOSAL.

41 [3.] 5. (a) The board of elections of counties in which voting
42 machines which have [removable electronic or computerized] PORTABLE
43 MEMORY devices [which record the total of the votes cast on such
44 machines] are used, may establish WRITTEN procedures CONSISTENT WITH THE
45 PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION AND FILED WITH THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
46 by which such devices may be used [after the close of the polls] to
47 provide the unofficial tally of results required by this section.

48 (b) Such procedures may include: the installation, at the board of
49 elections or at town or city halls, police stations, sheriff's offices
50 or other public buildings, of machines which record and transmit the
51 totals recorded in such devices to the board of elections or directly to
52 a representative of the press; the delivery of the devices from the
53 polling places to such locations and the removal of such devices, by at
54 least two clerks or other agents of such board of elections of opposite
55 political parties, from the containers or envelopes in which they were

1 sealed at the polling places and the insertion of such devices into such
2 machines.

3 (c) IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, UNLESS THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF SUCH
4 CITY DESIGNATES TWO CLERKS OR OTHER AGENTS OF OPPOSITE POLITICAL PARTIES
5 FOR DELIVERY OF THE DEVICES FROM THE POLLING PLACES TO SUCH LOCATIONS,
6 POLICE OFFICERS OR PEACE OFFICERS DESIGNATED BY THE POLICE COMMISSIONER
7 OF SUCH CITY SHALL PROVIDE SUCH DELIVERY AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.

8 (D) The board of elections shall provide containers, at all such
9 locations other than the offices of such board, into which all such
10 devices shall be placed by the clerks or other agents of such board of
11 elections after they are removed from such machines. Such containers
12 shall be sealed by such clerks or agents who shall also enter on a
13 certificate which shall be printed on each such container, the total
14 number of such devices placed in such container and the election
15 districts from which such devices came. Such clerks shall also sign such
16 certificate in the places provided.

17 [(d)] (E) Such containers shall be delivered to the board of elections
18 by the public officials in whose offices such machines were installed
19 within twenty-four hours after the closing of the polls [and the]. IN
20 THE CITY OF NEW YORK, UNLESS THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF SUCH CITY DESIG-
21 NATES TWO CLERKS OR OTHER AGENTS OF OPPOSITE POLITICAL PARTIES FOR
22 DELIVERY OF SUCH CONTAINERS TO THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS, POLICE OFFICERS
23 OR PEACE OFFICERS DESIGNATED BY THE POLICE COMMISSIONER OF SUCH CITY
24 SHALL DELIVER SUCH CONTAINERS. THE board of elections shall give such
25 officials, POLICE OFFICERS, OR PEACE OFFICERS a receipt therefor which
26 states therein the date and hour of delivery, the name of the person
27 making the delivery and the name of the person to whom such delivery was
28 made. The board of elections shall keep a duplicate of such receipt on
29 file at the office of such board.

30 [(e)] (F) The cost of installing such machines at locations other than
31 the board of elections and the cost of transmitting the results from
32 such machines may be paid by the board of elections or by a represen-
33 tative of the press. If such results are transmitted from a location
34 other than the board of elections directly to a representative of the
35 press, such cost shall be paid by such representative of the press.

36 S 14. Section 9-128 of the election law is REPEALED.

37 S 15. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to any
38 election held on or after the seventy-fifth day after it shall have
39 become a law.