

STATE ELECTION BOARD
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Promulgation of Subject 183-1-12-.21 *County Participation and Totals Reporting*

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSON AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Election Board, (hereinafter “SEB”) proposes the attached promulgation of Subject 183-1-12-.21 (County Participation and Totals Reporting).

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed new rules and a synopsis of the proposed rules, is being distributed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a distribution list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule amendments, and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official state holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Elections Division, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E., 8th Floor West Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the State Election Board’s web page at: <https://sos.ga.gov/page/proposed-state-election-board-rules-and-rule-amendments> Copies may also be requested by contacting the State Election Board at: ahardin@sos.ga.gov .

To provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendments, a public hearing will be held on Friday, September 20, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. The meeting will take place at the Georgia State Capitol, Room 341.

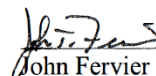
Information regarding how to join and provide public comment at the meeting will be available on the State Election Board’s webpage at: <https://sos.ga.gov/page/state-election-board-meetings-events>

Public comments given at the meeting will be limited to two minutes per person. Additional comments may be given using the following means and must be received by noon on September 19 to be considered by the State Election Board:

- Electronically by emailing SEBPublicComments@sos.ga.gov
- By mailing comments to:
State Election Board
C/O Alexandra Hardin
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
8th Floor West Tower Suite 802
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 21st day of August 2024.



John Fervier
Chair, State Election Board

Posted: August 21, 2024

**SYNOPSIS OF THE PROPOSED RULE
OF THE STATE ELECTION BOARD
RULE 183-1-12-.21 *County Participation and Totals Reporting***

Purpose: The purpose of the rule is to ensure ongoing transparency in elections during the advance and absentee voting period, and on Election Day. Further, it serves to continuously keep the public informed on the voting process and election information.

Main Features: This rule requires that, for each primary, general, and runoff election in Georgia, registrars must establish a daily reporting system to publicly share the total number of voters who have participated, beginning from the start of advance voting. The reports must include details on how voters participated (either through advance voting or absentee by mail), and for primary elections, they must also specify the number of party or nonpartisan ballots cast. After the canvass and computation of votes, excluding certain ballots like provisional or UOCAVA ballots, election superintendents must create and post precinct-level vote totals for all contests. Both the daily voter participation reports and the final vote totals must be posted on the registrar's or county election superintendent's website, or in a public place if no website is available. This ensures continuous transparency and public access to election information.

COPY OF THE PROPOSED NEW RULE

Rule 183-1-12-.21 *County Participation and Totals Reporting*

(1) For each primary election and general election and any associated runoffs, no later than the beginning of the advance voting period set by OCGA 21-2-385(d), each registrar shall establish a method of daily reporting to the public the total number of voters who have participated in the election or runoff.

(a) For each primary election and associated runoff, the registrar shall report (1) the total number of voters who have participated, (2) the method by which those voters participated (advance voting or absentee by mail), (3) the number of political party or nonpartisan ballots cast, and (4) the date on which the information was provided.

(b) For each general election and associated runoff, the registrar shall report (1) the total number of voters who have participated, (2) the method by which those voters participated (advance voting or absentee by mail), and (3) the date on which the information was provided.

(2) For each primary election and general election and any associated runoffs, at the conclusion of the canvass and computation of votes cast provided for in OCGA 21-2-493(a), with the exception of the processing of UOCAVA ballots, provisional ballots, and ballots requiring adjudication, the election superintendent shall create a report indicating the vote totals for all contests on the ballot by precinct.

(3) The registrar must post the daily reporting information required by paragraph (1) on the

internet website operated by the registrar or county election superintendent.

(4) The election superintendent must post the information required by paragraph (2) on the internet website operated by the county election superintendent.

(5) If a registrar and/or county election superintendent does not operate an internet website, the registrar must post the daily reporting information required by paragraph (1) and the report required by paragraph (2) in a public place in its office, accessible 24 hours a day to the public.

(6) The daily reporting information required by paragraph (1) must be updated each day on which advance voting occurs in the county prior to any primary election, general election, and/or associated runoffs.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d), O.C.G.A. § 21-2-493(a)