

**STATE ELECTION BOARD**  
**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

**Revisions to Subject 183-1-13-.05 Poll Watchers for Tabulating Center**

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 amendments to Subject 183-1-13-.05 (Poll Watchers for Tabulating Center).

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](mailto: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.

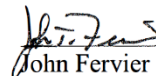
Information regarding how to join and provide public comment at the meeting will be available on the State Election Board’s webpage at: <https://sos.ga.gov/page/state-election-board-meetings-events>

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](mailto: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 183-1-13-.05 *Poll Watchers for Tabulating Center***

Purpose: The purpose of the rule is to clarify the existing election code and to ensure poll watchers may fairly observe all processes of the tabulation center.

Main Features: The main feature of the amendment is that designates additional areas within the tabulating centers in which poll watchers are permitted to view tabulation and reconciliation processes.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED  
AMENDMENTS OF THE STATE ELECTION BOARD,  
RULE 183-1-13-.05 *Poll Watchers for Tabulating Center***

NOTE: Underlined text is proposed to be added.

**Rule 183-1-13-.05 *Poll Watchers for Tabulating Center***

In counties and municipalities using central count optical scanning vote tabulation equipment, the election superintendent shall allow each political party to appoint two poll watchers for each primary or election, each political body to appoint two poll watchers for each election, and each independent candidate and each nonpartisan candidate to appoint one poll watcher for each election, to serve in each of the locations designated by the election superintendent within the tabulating center. Such designated places shall include the check-in area, the computer room, the duplication area, and such other areas that tabulation processes are taking place including but not limited to provisional ballot adjudication of ballots, closing of advanced voting equipment, verification and processing of mail in ballots, memory card transferring, regional or satellite check in centers and any election reconciliation processes as the election superintendent may deem necessary to the assurance of fair and honest procedures in the tabulating center. Poll watchers designated for the tabulating center shall be appointed and serve in the same manner as other poll watchers.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 21-2-408 (c)

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