

STATE ELECTION BOARD
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING
Revisions to Subject 183-1-14-.02 Advanced Voting

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 revision of Subject 183-1-14-.02 (Advanced Voting).

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.

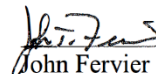
Information regarding how to join and provide public comment at the meeting will be available on the State Election Board’s webpage at: <https://sos.ga.gov/page/state-election-board-meetings-events>

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 183-1-14-.02 *Advanced Voting***

Purpose: The purpose of the rule is to reconcile tabulator tape ballot counts with scanner ballot counts to ensure that the voting system is correctly counting ballots and detect potential errors.

Main Features: The main feature of this rule amendment is that it requires election officials to reconcile the ballot counts from the scanner tabulation tapes, the election counters on the ballot scanners, the numbered list of absentee electors, and the absentee ballot recap form. If any discrepancies are found, no further action shall be taken until the issue is resolved to the satisfaction of the election superintendent.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS OF THE STATE ELECTION BOARD,
RULE 183-1-14-.02 *Advanced Voting***

NOTE: Underlined text is proposed to be added.

RULE 183-1-14-.02(15).

After verifying the seal number and the integrity of the seal on each ballot scanner, the election superintendent or tabulating center personnel shall open each ballot scanner and turn on the power. The election superintendent or tabulating center personnel shall then compare the numbers shown on the election counters of the ballot scanners with the numbered list of absentee electors and the absentee ballot recap form to verify that there are no discrepancies. If there is a discrepancy, no further action shall be taken until the reason for the discrepancy has been determined to the satisfaction of the election superintendent. The election superintendent or tabulating center personnel shall cause each ballot scanner to print a minimum of three tapes showing the vote totals as cast on that ballot scanner. The election superintendent or tabulating center personnel shall then record the count of the ballots cast from the scanner tabulation tapes and reconcile 1) the count of the ballots cast on the scanner tabulation tapes, 2) the numbers shown on the election counters of the ballot scanners, 3) the numbered list of absentee electors, and 4) the absentee ballot recap form. If there is a discrepancy, no further action shall be taken until the reason for the discrepancy has been determined to the satisfaction of the election superintendent. Three witnesses shall sign each of the tapes or shall write on the tapes the reason why they will not sign the tapes. One copy of the results tape for each ballot scanner shall be made available for the information of the public. One tape shall be placed into an envelope (or reusable document storage container suitable for the same purpose), provided by the election superintendent along with "poll worker" memory cards from the ballot scanner. The envelope shall be sealed by the poll manager and the same two witnesses who signed the tape such that the envelope cannot be opened without breaking such seal. The envelope shall be initialed by the poll manager and the two witnesses indicating that it contains the correct tape and memory card from the indicated ballot scanner. The envelope shall be labelled with the name of the polling place, the serial number of the ballot scanner, and the number assigned to the ballot scanner for

that election. The third tape shall be placed into another envelope with the absentee ballot recap form.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-368, 21-2-379.24.

COPY OF THE PROPOSED NEW RULE

RULE 183-1-14-.02(15).

After verifying the seal number and the integrity of the seal on each ballot scanner, the election superintendent or tabulating center personnel shall open each ballot scanner and turn on the power. The election superintendent or tabulating center personnel shall then compare the numbers shown on the election counters of the ballot scanners with the numbered list of absentee electors and the absentee ballot recap form to verify that there are no discrepancies. If there is a discrepancy, no further action shall be taken until the reason for the discrepancy has been determined to the satisfaction of the election superintendent. The election superintendent or tabulating center personnel shall cause each ballot scanner to print a minimum of three tapes showing the vote totals as cast on that ballot scanner. The election superintendent or tabulating center personnel shall then record the count of the ballots cast from the scanner tabulation tapes and reconcile 1) the count of the ballots cast on the scanner tabulation tapes, 2) the numbers shown on the election counters of the ballot scanners, 3) the numbered list of absentee electors, and 4) the absentee ballot recap form. If there is a discrepancy, no further action shall be taken until the reason for the discrepancy has been determined to the satisfaction of the election superintendent. Three witnesses shall sign each of the tapes or shall write on the tapes the reason why they will not sign the tapes. One copy of the results tape for each ballot scanner shall be made available for the information of the public. One tape shall be placed into an envelope (or reusable document storage container suitable for the same purpose), provided by the election superintendent along with "poll worker" memory cards from the ballot scanner. The envelope shall be sealed by the poll manager and the same two witnesses who signed the tape such that the envelope cannot be opened without breaking such seal. The envelope shall be initialed by the poll manager and the two witnesses indicating that it contains the correct tape and memory card from the indicated ballot scanner. The envelope shall be labelled with the name of the polling place, the serial number of the ballot scanner, and the number assigned to the ballot scanner for that election. The third tape shall be placed into another envelope with the absentee ballot recap form.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-368, 21-2-379.24.