

## Article - Election Law

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§9–303.

(a) The State Board shall establish guidelines for the administration of absentee voting by the local boards.

(b) The guidelines shall provide for:

- (1) the application process;
- (2) late application for absentee ballots;
- (3) ballot security, including storage of returned ballots;
- (4) determining timeliness of receipt of applications and ballots, including applications and ballots for overseas voters;
- (5) the canvass process;
- (6) notice of the canvass to candidates, political parties, campaign organizations, news media, and the general public;
- (7) observers of the process;
- (8) review of voted ballots and envelopes for compliance with the law and for machine tabulation acceptability;
- (9) standards for disallowance of ballots during the canvass; and
- (10) storage and retention of ballots following canvass and certification.

(c) The State Board shall:

- (1) in consultation with the local boards, assess the guidelines before each primary election; and
- (2) revise the guidelines if indicated.

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