

The Board of State Canvassers shall thereupon determine and declare what persons have been, by the greatest number of votes, elected to such offices, and each of them; they shall make and subscribe on a proper statement a certificate of such determination, and shall deliver the same to the Secretary of State.

(d) If any of the canvassers shall dissent from the decision of the Board of State Canvassers, he shall state in writing, the reason for such dissent. If any of the acts or proceedings of the Board of State Canvassers shall appear to any one of the canvassers to be irregular and illegal, such canvasser shall protest the same, in writing, setting forth distinctly the grounds of his protest; the canvasser so dissenting or protesting shall deliver his dissent or protest, signed with his proper name, to the Secretary of State, who shall file the same in his office. He shall also keep on file in his office the copies of the statements made by the board of city and county canvassers.

(e) The Board of State Canvassers shall have power to adjourn from day to day, during a period not exceeding five days.

## 18-2. Commissions of election.

(a) The Secretary of State shall record in his office, in a book kept by him for that purpose, each certified statement and determination which shall be delivered to him by the Board of State Canvassers, and every dissent or protest which shall have been delivered to him by a canvasser. He shall, without delay, transmit a copy under seal of his office of such certified determination to each person thereby declared to be elected, and a like copy to the Governor; and he shall cause a copy of such certified statement and determinations to be published in one newspaper in the City of Annapolis and one in the City of Baltimore.

(b) In conformity with the statements and determinations made as aforesaid by the Board of State Canvassers, the Governor shall issue commissions to the different persons elected, as now provided by the Constitution and laws of this State.

(c) In addition, the Secretary of State shall likewise without delay transmit a copy under seal of his office of such certified determination and statement as to the election of a United States Senator to represent the State of Maryland in the Senate of the United States to the Secretary and to the presiding officer respectively of the United States Senate, to inform that body of the result of the election for Senator; and such certificate shall be prima facie evidence of the right of the candidate certified as receiving the highest number of votes to be seated. A similar certificate shall be transmitted to the Secretary and to the presiding officer of the House of Representatives to inform that body of the results of the elections for members of the House of Representatives.

## CONTESTED ELECTIONS

### 19-1. What elections to be decided by House of Delegates.

All contested elections for Comptroller of the treasury, judges, clerks of the court, and registers of wills shall be decided by the House of Delegates. Testimony shall be taken in such cases in the