

TIFICATE WITHIN TWO DAYS AFTER THE FINAL FILING DATE AS ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 4A-3 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(a) Whenever any person who has filed a certificate of candidacy for nomination in any primary election shall, in a writing signed by him, and acknowledged before a justice of the peace or notary public, notify the officer or board with whom the certificate of candidacy is required to be filed by this article, at least forty-five (45) days before the said primary that he desires to withdraw as a candidate for such nomination, the certificate of candidacy shall thereupon be and become void; and the name of any person so withdrawing shall not be printed upon the ballots to be used at the primary election. The filing of a valid certificate of withdrawal of candidacy is a final act of withdrawal; and a person who files such a certificate of withdrawal may not reinstate his candidacy, unless the time limit for the filing of candidacies has not expired. No filing fees shall be refunded to persons who withdraw in accordance with this section, subject, however, to Section 4A-7 of this article.

(b) Whenever any person nominated for public office as in this article provided shall, at least thirty-five (35) days before election, in a writing signed by him and acknowledged before a justice of the peace or a notary public, notify the officer with whom the certificate nominating him is required to be filed by this article, that he declines such nomination, such nomination shall be void; and the name of any person so withdrawing shall not be printed upon the ballots.

17-2.

(a) Each board shall constitute a board of canvassers for its county or city, as the case may be. On the second day following every *primary or general* election, and on the first day following every *special primary or special* election, between the hours of ten o'clock a.m. and one o'clock in the afternoon, the board of canvassers for each county and for the City of Baltimore shall meet at the usual place for holding the circuit court of the county or at the office of the board. Each board of canvassers shall elect a chairman and secretary from their number. Each member of the board of canvassers shall take an oath, which shall be administered and recorded by the clerk of the court, to truly canvass, add up and declare the votes as required by law. At their first meeting a majority of the whole board of canvassers shall be a quorum. If a majority shall not attend as aforesaid, the canvassers present shall adjourn to the next day, when they shall meet again between the same hours. The canvassers shall perform the duties required by law; and all questions arising in the course of their proceedings shall be determined by a majority of the canvassers. All the sessions, deliberations and proceedings of the board of canvassers shall be public, and the candidates and their counsel shall have the right to attend and inspect the original statements and returns, and all other documents and records.

17-5.

(a) On the second Tuesday after any *primary or general* election or, if the canvass is completed after this time, within forty-eight hours after its completion, and as soon as possible after any *special*