COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.B. 2518

(Reference to House engrossed bill)

1	Page 1, between lines 1 and 2, insert:
2	"Section 1. Section 16-424, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3	read:
4	16-424. Specifications of voting machine
5	A. A voting machine shall be constructed to provide facilities for
6	voting for candidates at both primary and general elections.
7	B. A voting machine shall:
8	1. Permit a voter to vote for any person for any office whether or not
9	nominated as a candidate.
10	2. Insure ENSURE voting in absolute secrecy.
11	3. Permit a voter to vote for any candidate or on any proposed
12	constitutional amendment, question, proposition or measure for whom or on
13	which he THE VOTER is entitled to vote, but none other.
14	4. Permit a voter to vote for the lawful number of candidates for an
15	office, but no more.
16	5. Prevent the voter from voting for the same person twice.
17	6. IMPLEMENT RANKED CHOICE VOTING WHEN RANKING FOR CONTESTS IS USED IN
18	A CITY OR TOWN ELECTION.
19	6. 7. Be provided with a lock by which immediately after the polls
20	are closed any movement of the voting or registering mechanism is absolutely
21	prevented.
22	C. A voting machine may be equipped with a device or devices for
23	printing, embossing or photographing the count as shown on the candidate and
24	amendment counters. The device will furnish a sheet of machine counter
25	readings prior to BEFORE the opening of the polls and in addition will

provide a sheet of machine counter readings immediately upon ON close of polls in a minimum of three copies.

for voting for candidates at both primary and general elections.

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Sec. 2. Section 16-446, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 16-446. <u>Specifications of electronic voting system</u>

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A. An electronic voting system consisting of a voting or marking device in combination with vote tabulating equipment shall provide facilities

7 8

B. An electronic voting system shall:

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1. Provide for voting in secrecy when used with voting booths.

2. Permit each elector to vote at any election for any person for any office whether or not nominated as a candidate, to vote for as many persons for an office as he THE ELECTOR is entitled to vote for and to vote for or against any question on which he THE ELECTOR is entitled to vote, and the vote tabulating equipment shall reject choices recorded on his THE ELECTOR'S ballot card or paper ballot if the number of choices exceeds the number that he THE ELECTOR is entitled to vote for the office or on the measure.

Prevent the elector from voting for the same person more than once
 for the same office.

ACCOMMODATE RANKED CHOICE VOTING WHEN RANKING FOR CONTESTS IS
 PRESCRIBED.

4. 5. Be suitably designed for the purpose used and be of durable
 construction, and may be used safely, efficiently and accurately in the
 conduct of elections and counting ballots.

5. 6. Be provided with means for sealing the voting or marking device
against any further voting after the close of the polls and the last voter
has voted.

27 6. 7. When properly operated, record correctly and count accurately
 28 every vote cast.

29 7. 8. Provide a durable paper document that visually indicates the
30 voter's selections, that the voter may use to verify the voter's choices,
31 that may be spoiled by the voter if it fails to reflect the voter's choices

and that permits the voter to cast a new ballot. This paper document shall
 be used in manual audits and recounts.

3

4 5 Sec. 3. Section 16-449, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 16-449. <u>Required test of equipment and programs; notice;</u>

procedures manual

6 Within the period of time before the election day prescribed by the Α. secretary of state in the instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant 7 8 to section 16-452, the board of supervisors or other election officer in 9 charge, or for an election involving state or federal candidates, the 10 secretary of state, shall have the automatic tabulating equipment and programs tested to ascertain that the equipment and programs will correctly 11 12 count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures, INCLUDING THOSE USING THE RANKED CHOICE VOTING METHOD. Public notice of the time and place 13 14 of the test shall be given at least forty-eight hours prior thereto by publication once in one or more daily or weekly newspapers published in the 15 town, city or village using such equipment, if a newspaper is published 16 17 therein, otherwise in a newspaper of general circulation therein. The test 18 shall be observed by at least two election inspectors, who shall not be of 19 the same political party, and shall be open to representatives of the 20 political parties, candidates, the press and the public. The test shall be 21 conducted by processing a preaudited group of ballots so punched or marked as to record a predetermined number of valid votes for each candidate and on 22 23 each measure and shall include for each office one or more ballots that have 24 votes in excess of the number allowed by law in order to test the ability of 25 the automatic tabulating equipment and programs to reject such votes. If any 26 error is detected, the cause therefor shall be ascertained and corrected and an errorless count shall be made before the automatic tabulating equipment 27 and programs are approved. A copy of a revised program shall be filed with 28 the secretary of state within forty-eight hours after the revision is made. 29 30 If the error was created by automatic tabulating equipment malfunction, a report shall be filed with the secretary of state within forty-eight hours 31 32 after the correction is made, stating the cause and the corrective action

- 3 -

1 taken. The test shall be repeated immediately before the start of the 2 official count of the ballots in the same manner as set forth above. After 3 the completion of the count, the programs used and the ballots shall be 4 sealed, retained and disposed of as provided for paper ballots.

5 B. Electronic ballot tabulating systems shall be tested for logic and 6 accuracy within seven days before their use for early balloting pursuant to the instructions and procedures manual for electronic voting systems that is 7 adopted by the secretary of state as prescribed by section 16-452. The 8 9 instructions and procedures manual shall include procedures for the handling 10 of ballots, the electronic scanning of ballots and any other matters necessary to ensure the maximum degree of correctness, impartiality and 11 12 uniformity in the administration of an electronic ballot tabulating system.

C. Notwithstanding subsections A and B of this section, if a county uses accessible voting equipment to mark ballots and that accessible voting equipment does not independently tabulate or tally votes, the secretary of state in cooperation with the county officer in charge of elections may designate a single date to test the logic and accuracy of both the accessible voting equipment and electronic ballot tabulating systems."

19 Renumber to conform

20 Page 1, after line 28, insert:

21 "Sec. 5. Title 16, chapter 4, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by 22 adding article 15, to read:

ARTICLE 15. OPTIONAL CITY AND TOWN RANKED CHOICE VOTING

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16-731. Ranked choice voting; threshold

A. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A CITY OR TOWN MAY BY ORDINANCE
ESTABLISH AND USE A SYSTEM OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN THAT CITY'S OR TOWN'S
ELECTIONS. IN ANY ELECTION IN WHICH RANKED CHOICE VOTING IS USED, THE
FOLLOWING APPLY:

FOR AN ELECTION TO FILL TWO OR MORE SEATS FOR THE SAME OFFICE AND
 TERM, AN ELECTOR MAY VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATES FOR THAT OFFICE BY INDICATING
 THE ELECTOR'S ORDER OF PREFERENCE AMONG THE CANDIDATES. AN ELECTOR MAY VOTE
 FOR AND RANK AS FEW OF THE CANDIDATES AS THE ELECTOR WISHES OR THE ELECTOR

MAY VOTE FOR AND RANK AS MANY OF THE CANDIDATES AS PERMITTED FOR THAT BALLOT
 AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW.

2. FOR AN ELECTION TO FILL A SINGLE SEAT FOR AN OFFICE AND TERM, AN
ELECTOR MAY VOTE FOR AND RANK AS FEW OF THE CANDIDATES AS THE ELECTOR WISHES
OR THE ELECTOR MAY VOTE FOR AND RANK AS MANY OF THE CANDIDATES AS PERMITTED
FOR THAT BALLOT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW. THE THRESHOLD FORMULA FOR A
SINGLE SEAT CONTEST SHALL RESULT IN A MAJORITY.

B. FOR ANY ELECTION WITH RANKED CHOICE VOTING, THE THRESHOLD NUMBER OF
VOTES NECESSARY FOR A CANDIDATE TO BE ELECTED IS:

101. THE FEWEST VOTES THAT CAN BE OBTAINED BY NO MORE THAN THE NUMBER OF11CANDIDATES TO BE ELECTED.

CALCULATED BY DETERMINING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VALID VOTES CAST AND
 DIVIDING THAT NUMBER BY THE SUM OF ONE PLUS THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES TO BE
 ELECTED, THEN ADDING ONE VOTE TO THE AMOUNT CALCULATED AND IGNORING ANY
 FRACTIONS IN THE RESULTS, AS SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING FORMULA:

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17

(TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES CAST)

(1 + NUMBER OF CANDIDATES TO BE ELECTED FOR THAT OFFICE) +1 = THRESHOLD

C. BALLOTS SHALL BE TALLIED AND ALLOCATED IN ROUNDS OF COUNTING AND
 EACH BALLOT SHALL BE COUNTED AS ONE VOTE FOR THAT BALLOT'S HIGHEST RANKED
 ADVANCING CANDIDATE. AN ADVANCING CANDIDATE IS A CANDIDATE THAT HAS NOT
 REACHED THE THRESHOLD NUMBER FOR ELECTION AND HAS NOT BEEN ELIMINATED FROM
 THE CONTEST AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-733.

D. EACH CANDIDATE WHO REACHES THE THRESHOLD NUMBER OF VOTES IS 23 ELECTED. IF MORE THAN ONE CANDIDATE REACHES THE THRESHOLD NUMBER IN A ROUND 24 25 OF COUNTING, THE BALLOTS OF THE CANDIDATE WHO RECEIVES THE LARGEST NUMBER OF FIRST CHOICE VOTES SHALL BE THE FIRST VOTES REDISTRIBUTED AT THEIR TRANSFER 26 27 VALUE TO THE SECOND CHOICE INDICATED ON THAT BALLOT OR THE NEXT AVAILABLE 28 CHOICE IF THE SECOND CHOICE CANDIDATE HAS ALREADY BEEN ELECTED OR ELIMINATED. 29 THE TRANSFER PROCEDURE SHALL BE REPEATED FOR THE BALLOTS OF THE REMAINING 30 CANDIDATE WHO WAS ELECTED ON THE FIRST ROUND IF ALL SEATS HAVE NOT BEEN 31 ELECTED BY THE FIRST REDISTRIBUTION.

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16-732. Surplus votes; redistribution; transfer value

A. VOTES THAT ARE ACQUIRED BY AN ADVANCING CANDIDATE IN EXCESS OF THE
THRESHOLD NUMBER REQUIRED FOR THAT ELECTION CONSTITUTE THE CANDIDATE'S
SURPLUS VOTES. ANY SURPLUS VOTES THAT CANDIDATE HAS RECEIVED SHALL BE
REDISTRIBUTED AMONG THE OTHER ADVANCING CANDIDATES AS FOLLOWS:

6 1. EACH VOTE THAT WAS RECEIVED BY THE ELECTED CANDIDATE SHALL BE 7 REDISTRIBUTED TO THE NEXT AVAILABLE CHOICE ON THAT BALLOT ACCORDING TO A TRANSFER VALUE FOR EACH BALLOT. A BALLOT SHALL NOT BE TRANSFERRED IF IT DOES 8 9 NOT CONTAIN A VALID CHOICE TO TRANSFER. VALID BALLOTS SHALL BE TRANSFERRED 10 AND THE TRANSFER VALUE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED AFTER TRANSFER. THE TRANSFER VALUE SHALL BE DETERMINED BY DIVIDING THE NUMBER OF SURPLUS VOTES CAST FOR 11 12 THE ELECTED CANDIDATE BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES RECEIVED BY THE ELECTED CANDIDATE. CALCULATED TO FIVE DECIMAL PLACES AND THEN ROUNDED TO THE FOURTH 13 14 DECIMAL PLACE.

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2. THE TRANSFER VALUE IS DEPICTED IN THE FOLLOWING FORMULA:

16

(NUMBER OF SURPLUS VOTES FOR THE ELECTED CANDIDATE)

17 (TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES RECEIVED BY THE ELECTED CANDIDATE) = TRANSFER
 18 VALUE.

19 B. IF A CANDIDATE RECEIVES MORE THAN THE THRESHOLD NUMBER OF VOTES 20 NECESSARY TO BE ELECTED AS A RESULT OF THE REDISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS VOTES FROM A PREVIOUSLY ELECTED CANDIDATE, THE NUMBER OF VOTES IN EXCESS OF THE 21 MINIMUM THRESHOLD OF VOTES NECESSARY TO BE ELECTED SHALL BE REDISTRIBUTED TO 22 THE ADVANCING CANDIDATES. THIS REDISTRIBUTION SHALL BE TO THE NEXT AVAILABLE 23 CHOICE SHOWN ON EACH OF THE ELECTED CANDIDATE'S BALLOTS. THE TRANSFER VALUE 24 25 FOR THE BALLOTS ON WHICH THE CANDIDATE WAS THE FIRST CHOICE SHALL BE THE SAME AS THE TRANSFER VALUE PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A. THE LESSER TRANSFER VALUE 26 27 FOR EACH BALLOT THAT IS TRANSFERRED TO THE ADVANCING CANDIDATE FROM ONE OR 28 MORE PREVIOUSLY ELECTED CANDIDATES SHALL BE DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS:

THE SURPLUS VOTES CAST FOR THE ELECTED CANDIDATE SHALL BE DIVIDED
 BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES RECEIVED BY THE ELECTED CANDIDATE AND MULTIPLIED
 BY THE PREVIOUS TRANSFER VALUE OF THAT BALLOT. THE AMOUNT SHALL BE

- 6 -

1 CALCULATED TO FIVE DECIMAL PLACES AND THEN ROUNDED TO THE FOURTH DECIMAL 2 PLACE.

3

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2. THE SURPLUS VALUE IS DEPICTED IN THE FOLLOWING FORMULA:

(NUMBER OF SURPLUS VOTES CAST FOR THE ELECTED CANDIDATE)

5 (TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES RECEIVED BY THE ELECTED CANDIDATE) X PREVIOUS
 6 TRANSFER VALUE OF THAT BALLOT = LESSER TRANSFER VALUE.

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16-733. Elimination rounds; transfer of votes; limitation

A. FOR ANY ROUND OF BALLOT COUNTING IN WHICH THERE ARE NO MORE 8 9 SURPLUSES TO TRANSFER AND THE SEATS ARE NOT YET FILLED, THE CANDIDATE WITH 10 THE LOWEST NUMBER OF VOTES SHALL BE ELIMINATED. IN ELIMINATION ROUNDS. ALL OF THAT ELIMINATED CANDIDATE'S VOTES INCLUDING FIRST CHOICE VOTES AND ANY 11 12 VOTES THAT WERE RECEIVED FROM A PREVIOUSLY ELECTED CANDIDATE'S SURPLUS AT THE TRANSFER VALUE SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE ADVANCING CANDIDATES ACCORDING TO 13 14 THE NEXT AVAILABLE CHOICE SHOWN ON THE ELIMINATED CANDIDATE'S BALLOTS. THE 15 ELIMINATED CANDIDATE'S FIRST CHOICE VOTES SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE SECOND. OR NEXT AVAILABLE, CHOICE AT FULL VALUE. ANY VOTES THAT ARE RECEIVED FROM 16 17 PREVIOUSLY ELECTED OR ELIMINATED CANDIDATES SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO ADVANCING CANDIDATES AT THE TRANSFER VALUE AT WHICH EACH VOTE WAS RECEIVED. 18

19 B. VOTES MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO CANDIDATES WHO HAVE ALREADY MET THE 20 THRESHOLD NUMBER AND VOTES MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO CANDIDATES WHO HAVE BEEN 21 ELIMINATED. IF A VOTER'S NEXT CHOICE IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR RECEIPT OF 22 TRANSFERRED VOTES. THAT VOTE OR PORTION OF A VOTE SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE VOTER'S NEXT INDICATED CHOICE UNTIL ALL CHOICES ON THAT BALLOT HAVE BEEN 23 24 EXHAUSTED. A BALLOT IS EXHAUSTED IF AFTER THE PREFERRED CANDIDATES ARE 25 ELIMINATED. THE BALLOT DOES NOT INDICATE ONE OF THE ADVANCING CANDIDATES AS AN ALTERNATE CHOICE. 26

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16-734. <u>Sequence of tabulation: candidates declared elected</u>

28 THE TABULATION OF VOTES TO BE REDISTRIBUTED AFTER THE FIRST ROUND OF
 29 COUNTING SHALL CONTINUE IN THE FOLLOWING SEQUENCE:

THE SURPLUS VOTES OF ELECTED CANDIDATES ARE REDISTRIBUTED UNTIL
 THERE ARE NO MORE CANDIDATES TO RECEIVE THE MINIMUM THRESHOLD OF VOTES
 NECESSARY TO BE ELECTED.

- 7 -

2. THE VOTES OF ELIMINATED CANDIDATES ARE REDISTRIBUTED UNTIL ANOTHER
 CANDIDATE RECEIVES THE MINIMUM THRESHOLD NUMBER OF VOTES NECESSARY TO BE
 ELECTED.

WHEN THE NUMBER OF ADVANCING CANDIDATES PLUS THE NUMBER OF ELECTED
CANDIDATES WHO HAVE REACHED THE THRESHOLD IN PREVIOUS ROUNDS IS EQUAL TO THE
NUMBER OF CANDIDATES TO BE ELECTED, ALL OF THE ADVANCING CANDIDATES SHALL BE
DECLARED ELECTED, WHETHER OR NOT THOSE CANDIDATES HAVE RECEIVED THE MINIMUM
THRESHOLD NUMBER OF VOTES NECESSARY TO BE ELECTED.

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16-735. Tally report for ranked choice voting

10NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, FOR EACH OFFICE ELECTED BY RANKED CHOICE11VOTING, THE STATEMENT OF THE RESULT SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

121. THE NUMBER OF VOTES CAST IN EACH ELECTION DISTRICT FOR EACH13ADVANCING CANDIDATE IN EACH OFFICIAL ROUND OF COUNTING, WHERE POSSIBLE.

THE NUMBER OF EXHAUSTED BALLOTS IN EACH DISTRICT IN EACH OFFICIAL
 ROUND OF COUNTING, WHERE POSSIBLE.

163. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES CAST THAT ARE COUNTED FOR EACH ADVANCING17CANDIDATE IN EACH OFFICIAL ROUND OF COUNTING.

18 4. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EXHAUSTED BALLOTS IN EACH OFFICIAL ROUND OF
 19 COUNTING.

20 21 16-736. <u>Ranked choice voting; applicability; ballot format;</u> rules

A. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, THE SINGLE-SEAT RANKED CHOICE METHOD
 MAY BE USED IN ANY CITY OR TOWN ELECTION CONTEST IN WHICH A VOTER HAS THREE
 OR MORE VOTING OPTIONS FOR A PARTICULAR OFFICE OR ISSUE.

B. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, THE MULTISEAT RANKED CHOICE VOTING
METHOD MAY BE USED IN ANY CITY OR TOWN ELECTION CONTEST IN WHICH A VOTER HAS
THREE OR MORE VOTING OPTIONS FOR THAT GROUP OF OFFICES.

C. BALLOTS APPROVED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE AS SIMPLE AND EASY TO
USE AS PRACTICABLE AND SHALL ALLOW A VOTER TO RANK CANDIDATES FOR AN OFFICE
OR GROUP OF OFFICES IN THE ORDER OF THAT VOTER'S CHOICE. IF PRACTICABLE,
BALLOTS SHALL BE DESIGNED IN A WAY THAT VOTERS MAY MARK THEIR FIRST CHOICES
IN THE SAME MANNER AS THAT FOR OFFICES THAT ARE NOT ELECTED BY THE RANKED

- 8 -

1 CHOICE METHOD. IF THE SECRETARY OF STATE DETERMINES THAT THE NUMBER OF 2 CANDIDATES FOR A PARTICULAR OFFICE EXCEEDS THE PRACTICABLE SPACE REQUIREMENTS 3 FOR RANKING ALL CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT, THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAY LIMIT 4 THE NUMBER OF RANKED CHOICES THAT THE VOTER MAY MAKE, EXCEPT THAT IF THERE 5 ARE FIVE OR MORE CANDIDATES FOR AN OFFICE, THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL 6 PROVIDE FOR RANKING AT LEAST TWO MORE CANDIDATES THAN THE NUMBER OF SEATS TO 7 BE FILLED IN THAT CONTEST.

8

D. THE SECRETARY OF STATE BY RULE MAY:

9 1. PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF MECHANICAL, ELECTRONIC OR OTHER DEVICES FOR
 10 MARKING, SORTING AND COUNTING THE BALLOTS AND TABULATING THE RESULTS.

11 12 2. MODIFY THE FORM OF THE BALLOTS AND THE INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS TO COMPLY WITH THE SYSTEM OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING.

3. PRESCRIBE THE METHOD OF MARKING, SORTING, COUNTING, INVALIDATING
 AND TABULATING VOTES, EXCEPT THAT RULES OR PROCEDURES ADOPTED SHALL NOT
 CONFLICT WITH THE SUBSTANCE OR INTENT OF THIS ARTICLE.

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16-737. <u>Sample ballots: instructions to voters: voter intent</u>

A. INSTRUCTIONS ON THE BALLOT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

1. RANK CANDIDATES IN ORDER OF YOUR PREFERENCE.

192. YOU MAY RANK AS FEW CANDIDATES AS YOU WISH OR AS MANY AS IS20ALLOWED.

3. RANKING ADDITIONAL CANDIDATES WILL NOT HURT YOUR HIGHER RANKED
 FAVORITE CANDIDATES, BUT WILL INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF HAVING YOUR BALLOT
 COUNT FOR A CANDIDATE IF NO CANDIDATE INITIALLY GETS ENOUGH VOTES TO WIN.

24 4. DO NOT SKIP RANKINGS OR GIVE THE SAME RANKING TO MORE THAN ONE25 CANDIDATE.

26

5. DO NOT RANK THE SAME CANDIDATE MORE THAN ONCE.

B. THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL POST SAMPLE BALLOTS THAT
USE FICTITIOUS NAMES TO ILLUSTRATE VOTING PROCEDURES. THE SAMPLE BALLOTS
SHALL BE POSTED IN OR NEAR THE VOTING BOOTH AND SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE
INSTRUCTION MATERIALS FOR EARLY VOTERS, IN MAILED VOTER PAMPHLETS AND IN
INTERNET VOTER EDUCATION. BEFORE EACH ELECTION, THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL
CONDUCT A VOTER EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO EDUCATE VOTERS ON THE USE AND PURPOSE

- 9 -

OF THE RANKED CHOICE VOTING METHOD. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL USE PUBLIC
 SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS AS WELL AS SEEK OTHER MEDIA COOPERATION TO THE MAXIMUM
 EXTENT PRACTICABLE.

C. IN COUNTING BALLOTS, ELECTION OFFICIALS SHALL ATTEMPT TO ASCERTAIN 4 5 THE INTENT OF THE VOTER AS EXPRESSED BY THE VOTER'S MARKINGS ON THE BALLOT AS 6 PROVIDED BY LAW AND AS PRESCRIBED IN THE INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEDURES MANUAL ADOPTED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE. IF IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE THE 7 8 INTENT OF THE VOTER FOR ANY OFFICE OR PUBLIC QUESTION. THAT BALLOT SHALL BE 9 COUNTED AS BLANK OR SPOILED FOR THAT OFFICE OR QUESTION ONLY AND THAT 10 DETERMINATION DOES NOT APPLY FOR ANY OTHER OFFICE OR QUESTION ON THE BALLOT FOR WHICH THE VOTER'S INTENT CAN BE DETERMINED. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL 11 INCLUDE IN THE INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEDURES MANUAL PROVISIONS ON DETERMINING 12 13 WHETHER A BALLOT IS SPOILED AND WHETHER A VOTER'S INTENT CAN BE DETERMINED. 14 THE INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEDURES MANUAL SHALL CONFORM TO THE INTENT AND 15 SUBSTANCE OF THIS ARTICLE.

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16-738. Method of tabulating votes: instructions to voters

17 THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY WHENEVER RANKED CHOICE VOTING BALLOTS ARE18 TABULATED:

IF AFTER A BALLOT'S FIRST CHOICE CANDIDATE IS ELIMINATED, A BALLOT
 DOES NOT INDICATE ONE OF THE ADVANCING CANDIDATES AS AN ALTERNATE CHOICE, THE
 BALLOT IS EXHAUSTED AND SHALL NOT BE TABULATED FURTHER.

22 2. IF A VOTER SKIPS EXACTLY ONE NUMERICAL RANKING ON THAT VOTER'S
23 BALLOT, THE SKIPPED RANKING WILL BE IGNORED AND THAT BALLOT WILL BE VALID AND
24 TABULATED.

3. IF A VOTER SKIPS TWO OR MORE NUMERICAL RANKINGS ON THE VOTER'S
BALLOT, ONLY THOSE RANKINGS THAT WERE LOWER THAN THE TWO SKIPPED RANKINGS
WILL BE COUNTED AS VALID.

4. IF A VOTER GIVES THE SAME RANKING TO MORE THAN ONE CANDIDATE, THE
VOTER'S RANKINGS SHALL BE COUNTED IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE, STOPPING AT THE
POINT WHERE THE BALLOT CONTAINS THE SAME RANKING FOR MORE THAN ONE CANDIDATE.

5. IF A VOTER RANKS THE SAME CANDIDATE MORE THAN ONCE, THE HIGHEST
 RANKING FOR THAT CANDIDATE IS VALID AND ANY LOWER RANKINGS OF THAT CANDIDATE
 ARE IGNORED.

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6. FOR ANY TIED VOTES THAT MUST BE BROKEN AND THAT OCCUR AT ANY STAGE
IN THE TABULATION, THE ADVANTAGE GOES TO THE CANDIDATE WHO WAS CREDITED WITH
THE MOST VOTES IN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING ROUND OF TABULATION. FOR TIED
VOTES FOR WHICH THERE IS NO PREVIOUS ROUND OF TABULATING, THE FOLLOWING
APPLY:

9 (a) A TIE FOR THE FEWEST VOTES BETWEEN CANDIDATES WHO WILL NOT BE 10 ADVANCING AND WHO HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED FROM THE CONTEST SHALL BE RESOLVED BY 11 SIMULTANEOUSLY ELIMINATING BOTH CANDIDATES AND TABULATING AND TRANSFERRING 12 THE REMAINING VALID CHOICES FOR ADVANCING CANDIDATES. THE ROUND OF COUNTING 13 IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL THE BALLOTS OF BOTH ELIMINATED CANDIDATES ARE 14 TABULATED.

15 (b) A TIE BETWEEN CANDIDATES IN WHICH TWO OR MORE CANDIDATES HAVE AN
16 EQUAL NUMBER OF FIRST CHOICE VOTES AND MORE THAN TWO CANDIDATES WOULD ADVANCE
17 TO THE FINAL ROUND SHALL BE RESOLVED AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-649.

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16-739. Ranked choice voting; charter; ordinance

19THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT REQUIRE A CITY OR TOWN TO ADOPT A RANKED CHOICE20VOTING SYSTEM, BUT A CITY OR TOWN MAY AMEND ITS CHARTER IF REQUIRED FOR THAT21CITY OR TOWN TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TO IMPLEMENT RANKED CHOICE VOTING SYSTEM22AS PRESCRIBED BY THIS ARTICLE."

23 Amend title to conform

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