

CHAPTER 206

VOTING MACHINES

206.57 Examination of new voting systems.
206.83 Testing of voting systems.

206.90 Optical scan voting systems.

206.57 EXAMINATION OF NEW VOTING SYSTEMS.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S. 1992]

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1993 c 337 s 20]

[For text of subd 4, see M.S. 1992]

206.83 TESTING OF VOTING SYSTEMS.

The official in charge of elections shall have the voting system tested to ascertain that the system will correctly count the votes cast for all candidates and on all questions (1) within five days prior to election day, for punch card voting systems, or (2) within 14 days prior to election day, for optical scan voting systems. Public notice of the time and place of the test must be given at least two days in advance by publication once in official newspapers. The test must be observed by at least two election judges, who are not of the same major political party, and must be open to representatives of the political parties, candidates, the press, and the public. The test must be conducted by processing a preaudited group of ballots punched or marked to record a predetermined number of valid votes for each candidate and on each question, and must include for each office one or more ballot cards which have votes in excess of the number allowed by law in order to test the ability of the voting system to reject those votes. If any error is detected, the cause must be ascertained and corrected and an errorless count must be made before the voting system may be used in the election. The test for punch card voting systems must be repeated immediately before the start of the official count of the ballots, in the manner provided in this section. After the completion of the count, the programs used and ballot cards must be sealed, retained, and disposed of as provided for paper ballots.

History: 1993 c 223 s 21

206.90 OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEMS.

[For text of subds 1 to 5, see M.S. 1992]

Subd. 6. **Ballots.** In precincts using optical scan voting systems, a single ballot card on which all ballot information is included must be printed in black ink on white or buff colored material except that marks not to be read by the automatic tabulating equipment may be printed in another color ink. If more than one ballot card is required, the cards must, so far as practicable, be of the same color as is required for paper ballots.

When optical scan ballots are used, the offices to be elected must appear in the following order: federal offices; state legislative offices; constitutional offices; proposed constitutional amendments; county offices and questions; municipal offices and questions; school district offices and questions; special district offices and questions; and judicial offices.

[For text of subds 7 to 10, see M.S. 1992]

History: 1993 c 223 s 22