**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 7‑17‑10, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS, SO AS TO CHANGE THE MEETING DATE FROM FRIDAY TO MONDAY; TO AMEND SECTION 7‑17‑20, RELATING TO THE CANVASS OF VOTES, SO AS TO CHANGE THE DEADLINE FROM SATURDAY TO TUESDAY; AND TO ADD SECTION 7‑17‑25, SO AS TO REQUIRE POST‑ELECTION AUDITS TO BE CONDUCTED BY COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSIONS PURSUANT TO REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 7‑17‑10 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 7-17-10. The commissioners of election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, state officers, circuit solicitors, members of the General Assembly, and county officers or any of these officers shall meet in some convenient place at the county seat on the ~~Friday~~Monday next following the election, before one o’clock in the afternoon of that day, and shall proceed to organize as the county board of canvassers. They may appoint some competent person as secretary. The chairman shall then proceed to administer the constitutional oath to each member of the board, as canvassers, and shall administer the constitutional oath to the secretary, and the secretary shall administer to the chairman the same oath that he has administered to the other members of the board. The commissioners of election for members of Congress and presidential electors or any of these officers shall likewise meet at the same time at the county seat and shall in the same manner proceed to organize as the county board of canvassers for the election of the federal officers.”

SECTION 2. Section 7‑17‑20 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 7-17-20. The county board of canvassers, respectively, shall then proceed to canvass the votes of the county and make such statements of such votes as the nature of the election shall require no later than noon on the ~~Saturday~~Tuesday next following the election and at such time shall transmit to the State Board of Canvassers the results of their findings.”

SECTION 3. Article 1, Chapter 17, Title 7 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 7‑17‑25. Post‑election audits to correct or verify the outcome of an election must be completed by the county election commissions prior to certification of the election pursuant to regulations promulgated by the State Election Commission. These regulations must include a provision that audit data and reports must be available to the public.”

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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