

1           **MUNICIPAL ALTERNATE VOTING METHODS AMENDMENTS**

2   2022 GENERAL SESSION

3   STATE OF UTAH

4                           **Chief Sponsor: Douglas R. Welton**

5                           Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

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7   **LONG TITLE**

8   **General Description:**

9           This bill amends provisions relating to the Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot  
10 Project.

11 **Highlighted Provisions:**

- 12           This bill:
- 13           ▶ defines terms;
  - 14           ▶ replaces references to the "canvassing phase" with the term "ballot-counting phase";
  - 15           ▶ modifies provisions for determining a voter's intent on an instant runoff voting  
16 ballot;
  - 17           ▶ modifies provisions for determining when a vote is valid in an instant runoff race;
  - 18           ▶ modifies and clarifies recount procedures and requirements;
  - 19           ▶ permits a canvassing deadline extension, when necessary, to conduct a recount; and
  - 20           ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

21 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

22           None

23 **Other Special Clauses:**

24           None

25 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

26 AMENDS:

27           **20A-4-101**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 31

28           **20A-4-102**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapters 31 and 49

29 **20A-4-304**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, First Special Session, Chapter 15

30 **20A-4-601**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 187

31 **20A-4-603**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 305

32 **20A-4-604**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 187

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34 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

35 Section 1. Section **20A-4-101** is amended to read:

36 **20A-4-101. Manual ballots cast at a polling place -- Counting manual ballots at**  
37 **polling place on day of election before polls close.**

38 (1) Each county legislative body, municipal legislative body, and each poll worker  
39 shall comply with the requirements of this section when counting manual ballots on the day of  
40 an election, if:

41 (a) the ballots are cast at a polling place; and

42 (b) the ballots are counted at the polling place before the polls close.

43 (2) (a) Each county legislative body or municipal legislative body shall provide:

44 (i) two sets of ballot boxes for all voting precincts where both receiving and counting  
45 judges have been appointed; and

46 (ii) a counting room for the use of the poll workers counting the ballots during the day.

47 (b) At any election in any voting precinct in which both receiving and counting judges  
48 have been appointed, when at least 20 votes have been cast, the receiving judges shall:

49 (i) close the first ballot box and deliver it to the counting judges; and

50 (ii) prepare and use another ballot box to receive voted ballots.

51 (c) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(f), upon receipt of the ballot box, the counting  
52 judges shall:

53 (i) take the ballot box to the counting room;

54 (ii) count the votes on the regular ballots in the ballot box;

55 (iii) place the provisional ballot envelopes in the envelope or container provided for

56 them for return to the election officer; and

57 (iv) when they have finished counting the votes in the ballot box, return the emptied  
58 box to the receiving judges.

59 (d) (i) During the course of election day, whenever there are at least 20 ballots  
60 contained in a ballot box, the receiving judges shall deliver that ballot box to the counting  
61 judges for counting; and

62 (ii) the counting judges shall immediately count the regular ballots and segregate the  
63 provisional ballots contained in that box.

64 (e) The counting judges shall continue to exchange the ballot boxes and count ballots  
65 until the polls close.

66 (f) (i) The director of elections within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor shall make  
67 rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,  
68 describing the procedures that a counting judge is required to follow for counting ballots in an  
69 instant runoff voting race under [~~Title 20A, Chapter 4,~~] Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting  
70 Methods Pilot Project.

71 (ii) When counting ballots in an instant runoff voting race described in [~~Title 20A,  
72 Chapter 4,~~] Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, a counting judge shall  
73 comply with the procedures established under Subsection (2)(f)(i) and [~~Title 20A, Chapter 4,~~]  
74 Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project.

75 (3) To resolve questions that arise during the counting of ballots, a counting judge shall  
76 apply the standards and requirements of:

77 (a) to the extent applicable, Section [20A-4-105](#); and

78 (b) as applicable, for an instant runoff voting race under [~~Title 20A, Chapter 4,~~] Part 6,  
79 Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, [~~Subsection 20A-4-603(3)~~] Subsections  
80 [20A-4-603\(3\)](#) through (5).

81 Section 2. Section **20A-4-102** is amended to read:

82 **20A-4-102. Manual ballots cast at a polling place -- Counting manual ballots at**

83 **polling place on day of election after polls close.**

84 (1) (a) This section governs counting manual ballots on the day of an election, if:

85 (i) the ballots are cast at a polling place; and

86 (ii) the ballots are counted at the polling place after the polls close.

87 (b) Except as provided in Subsection (2) or a rule made under Subsection

88 [20A-4-101](#)(2)(f)(i), as soon as the polls have been closed and the last qualified voter has voted,  
89 the election judges shall count the ballots by performing the tasks specified in this section in  
90 the order that they are specified.

91 (c) To resolve questions that arise during the counting of ballots, a counting judge shall  
92 apply the standards and requirements of:

93 (i) to the extent applicable, Section [20A-4-105](#); and

94 (ii) as applicable, for an instant runoff voting race under Part 6, Municipal Alternate  
95 Voting Methods Pilot Project, [~~Subsection [20A-4-603](#)(3)~~] Subsections [20A-4-603](#)(3) through  
96 (5).

97 (2) (a) First, the election judges shall count the number of ballots in the ballot box.

98 (b) (i) If there are more ballots in the ballot box than there are names entered in the  
99 pollbook, the judges shall examine the official endorsements on the ballots.

100 (ii) If, in the unanimous opinion of the judges, any of the ballots do not bear the proper  
101 official endorsement, the judges shall put those ballots in an excess ballot file and not count  
102 them.

103 (c) (i) If, after examining the official endorsements, there are still more ballots in the  
104 ballot box than there are names entered in the pollbook, the judges shall place the remaining  
105 ballots back in the ballot box.

106 (ii) One of the judges, without looking, shall draw a number of ballots equal to the  
107 excess from the ballot box.

108 (iii) The judges shall put those excess ballots into the excess ballot envelope and not  
109 count them.

110 (d) When the ballots in the ballot box equal the number of names entered in the  
111 pollbook, the judges shall count the votes.

112 (3) The judges shall:

113 (a) place all unused ballots in the envelope or container provided for return to the  
114 county clerk or city recorder; and

115 (b) seal that envelope or container.

116 (4) The judges shall:

117 (a) place all of the provisional ballot envelopes in the envelope provided for them for  
118 return to the election officer; and

119 (b) seal that envelope or container.

120 (5) (a) In counting the votes, the election judges shall read and count each ballot  
121 separately.

122 (b) In regular primary elections the judges shall:

123 (i) count the number of ballots cast for each party;

124 (ii) place the ballots cast for each party in separate piles; and

125 (iii) count all the ballots for one party before beginning to count the ballots cast for  
126 other parties.

127 (6) (a) In all elections, the counting judges shall, except as provided in Part 6,  
128 Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, or a rule made under Subsection  
129 [20A-4-101\(2\)\(f\)\(i\)](#):

130 (i) count one vote for each candidate designated by the marks in the squares next to the  
131 candidate's name;

132 (ii) count each vote for each write-in candidate who has qualified by filing a  
133 declaration of candidacy under Section [20A-9-601](#);

134 (iii) read every name marked on the ballot and mark every name upon the tally sheets  
135 before another ballot is counted;

136 (iv) evaluate each ballot and each vote based on the standards and requirements of

137 Section **20A-4-105**;

138 (v) write the word "spoiled" on the back of each ballot that lacks the official  
139 endorsement and deposit it in the spoiled ballot envelope; and

140 (vi) read, count, and record upon the tally sheets the votes that each candidate and  
141 ballot proposition received from all ballots, except excess or spoiled ballots.

142 (b) Election judges need not tally write-in votes for fictitious persons, nonpersons, or  
143 persons clearly not eligible to qualify for office.

144 (c) The judges shall certify to the accuracy and completeness of the tally list in the  
145 space provided on the tally list.

146 (d) When the judges have counted all of the voted ballots, they shall record the results  
147 on the total votes cast form.

148 (7) Only an election judge and a watcher may be present at the place where counting is  
149 conducted until the count is completed.

150 Section 3. Section **20A-4-304** is amended to read:

151 **20A-4-304. Declaration of results -- Canvassers' report.**

152 (1) Each board of canvassers shall:

153 (a) except as provided in Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project,  
154 declare "elected" or "nominated" those persons who:

155 (i) had the highest number of votes; and

156 (ii) sought election or nomination to an office completely within the board's  
157 jurisdiction;

158 (b) declare:

159 (i) "approved" those ballot propositions that:

160 (A) had more "yes" votes than "no" votes; and

161 (B) were submitted only to the voters within the board's jurisdiction; or

162 (ii) "rejected" those ballot propositions that:

163 (A) had more "no" votes than "yes" votes or an equal number of "no" votes and "yes"

164 votes; and  
165 (B) were submitted only to the voters within the board's jurisdiction;  
166 (c) certify the vote totals for persons and for and against ballot propositions that were  
167 submitted to voters within and beyond the board's jurisdiction and transmit those vote totals to  
168 the lieutenant governor; and  
169 (d) if applicable, certify the results of each local district election to the local district  
170 clerk.  
171 (2) As soon as the result is declared, the election officer shall prepare a report of the  
172 result, which shall contain:  
173 (a) the total number of votes cast in the board's jurisdiction;  
174 (b) the names of each candidate whose name appeared on the ballot;  
175 (c) the title of each ballot proposition that appeared on the ballot;  
176 (d) each office that appeared on the ballot;  
177 (e) from each voting precinct:  
178 (i) the number of votes for each candidate;  
179 (ii) for each race conducted by instant runoff voting under Part 6, Municipal Alternate  
180 Voting Methods Pilot Project, the number of valid votes cast for each candidate for each  
181 potential ballot-counting phase and the name of the candidate excluded in each [~~canvassing~~  
182 ballot-counting phase; and  
183 (iii) the number of votes for and against each ballot proposition;  
184 (f) the total number of votes given in the board's jurisdiction to each candidate, and for  
185 and against each ballot proposition;  
186 (g) the number of ballots that were rejected; and  
187 (h) a statement certifying that the information contained in the report is accurate.  
188 (3) The election officer and the board of canvassers shall:  
189 (a) review the report to ensure that it is correct; and  
190 (b) sign the report.

- 191 (4) The election officer shall:
- 192 (a) record or file the certified report in a book kept for that purpose;
- 193 (b) prepare and transmit a certificate of nomination or election under the officer's seal
- 194 to each nominated or elected candidate;
- 195 (c) publish a copy of the certified report in accordance with Subsection (5); and
- 196 (d) file a copy of the certified report with the lieutenant governor.
- 197 (5) Except as provided in Subsection (6), the election officer shall, no later than seven
- 198 days after the day on which the board of canvassers declares the election results, publicize the
- 199 certified report described in Subsection (2):
- 200 (a) (i) by publishing notice at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within
- 201 the jurisdiction;
- 202 (ii) by posting one notice, and at least one additional notice per 2,000 population of the
- 203 jurisdiction, in places within the jurisdiction that are most likely to give notice to the residents
- 204 of the jurisdiction, subject to a maximum of 10 notices; or
- 205 (iii) by mailing notice to each residence within the jurisdiction;
- 206 (b) by posting notice on the Utah Public Notice Website, created in Section
- 207 [63A-16-601](#), for one week; and
- 208 (c) if the jurisdiction has a website, by posting notice on the jurisdiction's website for
- 209 one week.
- 210 (6) Instead of including a copy of the entire certified report, a notice required under
- 211 Subsection (5) may contain a statement that:
- 212 (a) includes the following: "The Board of Canvassers for [indicate name of
- 213 jurisdiction] has prepared a report of the election results for the [indicate type and date of
- 214 election]."; and
- 215 (b) specifies the following sources where an individual may view or obtain a copy of
- 216 the entire certified report:
- 217 (i) if the jurisdiction has a website, the jurisdiction's website;



218 (ii) the physical address for the jurisdiction; and

219 (iii) a mailing address and telephone number.

220 (7) When there has been a regular general or a statewide special election for statewide  
221 officers, for officers that appear on the ballot in more than one county, or for a statewide or two  
222 or more county ballot proposition, each board of canvassers shall:

223 (a) prepare a separate report detailing the number of votes for each candidate and the  
224 number of votes for and against each ballot proposition; and

225 (b) transmit the separate report by registered mail to the lieutenant governor.

226 (8) In each county election, municipal election, school election, local district election,  
227 and local special election, the election officer shall transmit the reports to the lieutenant  
228 governor within 14 days after the date of the election.

229 (9) In a regular primary election and in a presidential primary election, the board shall  
230 transmit to the lieutenant governor:

231 (a) the county totals for multi-county races, to be telephoned or faxed to the lieutenant  
232 governor not later than the second Tuesday after the election; and

233 (b) a complete tabulation showing voting totals for all primary races, precinct by  
234 precinct, to be mailed to the lieutenant governor on or before the third Friday following the  
235 primary election.

236 Section 4. Section **20A-4-601** is amended to read:

237 **20A-4-601. Definitions.**

238 As used in this part:

239 (1) "Candidate amplifier" means the product of:

240 (a) two less than the total number of candidates in a given [~~canvassing~~] ballot-counting  
241 phase of a multi-candidate race; and

242 (b) .02%.

243 (2) "First preference ranking" means the candidate selected as the candidate most  
244 preferred by a voter, as indicated by:

245           (a) the number one; or  
246           (b) if the voter does not assign the number one to any candidate, the number two.  
247           ~~[(2)]~~ (3) "Multi-candidate race" means a nonpartisan municipal race where:  
248           (a) for the election of at-large officers, the number of candidates who qualify for the  
249 race exceeds the total number of seats to be filled; or  
250           (b) for the election of an officer other than an at-large officer, more than two  
251 candidates qualify to run for one office.  
252           ~~[(3)]~~ (4) "Participating municipality" means a municipality that is participating in the  
253 pilot project, in accordance with Subsection 20A-4-602(3).  
254           ~~[(4)]~~ (5) "Pilot project" means the Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project  
255 created in Section 20A-4-602.  
256           ~~[(5)]~~ (6) "Recount threshold" means the sum of the candidate amplifier and the  
257 following:  
258           (a) for a ~~[canvassing]~~ ballot-counting phase in which fewer than 100 valid ~~[votes]~~  
259 rankings are counted, 0.21%;  
260           (b) for a ~~[canvassing]~~ ballot-counting phase in which at least 100, but fewer than 500,  
261 valid ~~[votes]~~ rankings are counted, 0.19%;  
262           (c) for a ~~[canvassing]~~ ballot-counting phase in which at least 500, but fewer than 1,000,  
263 valid ~~[votes]~~ rankings are counted, 0.17%;  
264           (d) for a ~~[canvassing]~~ ballot-counting phase in which at least 1,000, but fewer than  
265 5,000, valid ~~[votes]~~ rankings are counted, 0.15%;  
266           (e) for a ~~[canvassing]~~ ballot-counting phase in which at least 5,000, but fewer than  
267 10,000, valid ~~[votes]~~ rankings are counted, 0.13%; and  
268           (f) for a ~~[canvassing]~~ ballot-counting phase in which 10,000 or more valid ~~[votes]~~  
269 rankings are counted, 0.11%.  
270           ~~[(6)]~~ (7) "Valid" means that the ballot is marked in a manner that permits the ~~[vote]~~  
271 ranking to be counted during the applicable ballot-counting phase.

272 Section 5. Section **20A-4-603** is amended to read:

273 **20A-4-603. Instant runoff voting.**

274 (1) In a multi-candidate race, the election officer for a participating municipality shall:

275 (a) (i) conduct the first ballot-counting phase by counting the valid first preference  
276 ~~[votes]~~ rankings for each candidate; and

277 (ii) if ~~[, after complying with Subsection (5),]~~ one of the candidates receives more than  
278 50% of the valid first preference ~~[votes]~~ rankings counted, declare that candidate elected;

279 (b) if, after counting the valid first preference ~~[votes]~~ rankings for each candidate, ~~[and~~  
280 ~~complying with Subsection (5),]~~ no candidate receives more than 50% of the valid first  
281 preference ~~[votes]~~ rankings counted, conduct the second ballot-counting phase by:

282 (i) excluding from the multi-candidate race:

283 (A) the candidate who received the fewest valid first preference ~~[votes]~~ rankings  
284 counted; or

285 (B) in the event of a tie for the fewest valid first preference ~~[votes]~~ rankings counted,  
286 one of the tied candidates, determined by the ~~[tied]~~ election officer by lot, in accordance with  
287 Subsection (6);

288 (ii) adding, to the valid first preference ~~[votes]~~ rankings counted for the remaining  
289 candidates, the next valid ~~[second]~~ preference ~~[votes]~~ rankings cast for the remaining  
290 candidates by the voters who cast a valid first preference ~~[vote]~~ ranking for the excluded  
291 candidate; and

292 (iii) if, after adding the ~~[votes]~~ rankings in accordance with Subsection (1)(b)(ii) ~~[and~~  
293 ~~complying with Subsection (5),]~~ one candidate receives more than 50% of the valid ~~[votes]~~  
294 rankings counted, declaring that candidate elected; and

295 (c) if, after adding the next valid ~~[second]~~ preference ~~[votes]~~ rankings in accordance  
296 with Subsection (1)(b)(ii) ~~[and complying with Subsection (5),]~~ no candidate receives more  
297 than 50% of the valid ~~[votes]~~ rankings counted, conduct subsequent ballot-counting phases by  
298 continuing the process described in Subsection (1)(b) until a candidate receives more than 50%

299 of the valid [~~votes~~] rankings counted, as follows:

300 (i) [~~after complying with Subsection (5);~~] excluding from consideration the candidate  
301 who has the fewest valid [~~votes~~] rankings counted or, in the event of a tie for the fewest valid  
302 [~~votes~~] rankings counted, excluding one of the tied candidates, by lot, in accordance with  
303 Subsection (6); and

304 (ii) adding the next valid preference [~~vote~~] ranking cast by each voter whose [~~vote~~]  
305 ranking was counted for the last excluded candidate to one of the remaining candidates, in the  
306 order of the next preference indicated by the voter.

307 (2) The election officer shall declare elected the first candidate who receives more than  
308 50% of the valid [~~votes~~] rankings counted under the process described in Subsection (1).

309 (3) [~~(a)~~] A [~~vote~~] ranking is valid for a particular ballot-counting phase of a  
310 multi-candidate race [~~only~~] if:

311 (a) the voter indicates the voter's preference for that ballot-counting phase and all  
312 previous ballot-counting phases[~~;~~]; or

313 (b) in the event that the voter skips a number in filling out the rankings on a ballot:

314 (i) the voter clearly indicates an order of preference for the candidates;

315 (ii) the voter does not skip two or more consecutive numbers at any point before the  
316 preference ranking that would otherwise be counted for the current ballot-counting phase;

317 (iii) the candidate next preferred by the voter is clearly indicated by a subsequent  
318 number that most closely follows the number assigned by the voter for the previously-ranked  
319 candidate; and

320 (iv) the voter did not give the same rank to more than one candidate for the applicable  
321 ballot-counting phase or a previous ballot-counting phase.

322 [~~(b)~~] (4) A [~~vote~~] ranking is not valid for a particular ballot-counting phase of a  
323 multi-candidate race, and for all subsequent ballot-counting phases, if:

324 (a) the voter indicates the same rank for more than one candidate for that  
325 ballot-counting phase[~~;~~]; or

326 ~~[(4) The election officer shall order a recount of the valid votes in the applicable~~  
327 ~~ballot-counting phase if one candidate appears to have received at least 50% of the vote, and~~  
328 ~~the difference between the number of votes counted for the candidate who received the most~~  
329 ~~valid votes for the applicable ballot-counting phase and any other candidate in the race is equal~~  
330 ~~to or less than the product of the following, rounded up to the nearest whole number:]~~

331 ~~[(a) the total number of voters who cast a valid vote that is counted in the applicable~~  
332 ~~ballot-counting phase of the race; and]~~

333 ~~[(b) the recount threshold. (5) Before excluding a candidate from a multi-candidate~~  
334 ~~race under Subsection (1), the election officer shall order a recount of the valid votes counted~~  
335 ~~in the applicable ballot-counting phase if the difference between the number of votes counted~~  
336 ~~for the candidate who received the fewest valid votes in the applicable ballot-counting phase of~~  
337 ~~the race and any other candidate in the race is equal to or less than the product of the following,~~  
338 ~~rounded up to the nearest whole number:]~~

339 ~~[(a) the total number of voters who cast a valid vote counted in that ballot-counting~~  
340 ~~phase; and]~~

341 ~~[(b) the recount threshold:]~~

342 (b) the voter skips two or more consecutive numbers before ranking another candidate.

343 (5) If, for a ballot-counting phase, a voter ranks a candidate who has withdrawn from  
344 the race, the next-ranked candidate who has not withdrawn from the race will be counted for  
345 that ballot-counting phase.

346 (6) For each ballot-counting phase after the first phase, if ~~after a recount is completed~~  
347 ~~under Subsection (5);~~ two or more candidates tie as having received the fewest valid ~~[votes]~~  
348 rankings counted at that point in the ballot count, the election officer shall eliminate one of  
349 those candidates from consideration, by lot, in the following manner:

350 (a) determine the names of the candidates who tie as having received the fewest valid  
351 ~~[votes]~~ rankings for that ballot-counting phase;

352 (b) cast the lot in the presence of at least two election officials and any counting poll

353 watchers who are present and desire to witness the casting of the lot; and

354 (c) sign a public document that:

355 (i) certifies the method used for casting the lot and the result of the lot; and

356 (ii) includes the name of each individual who witnessed the casting of the lot.

357 (7) In a multi-candidate race for an at-large office, where the number of candidates

358 who qualify for the race exceeds the total number of at-large seats to be filled for the office, the

359 election officer shall count the [~~votes~~] rankings by:

360 (a) except as provided in Subsection (8), counting [~~votes~~] rankings in the same manner

361 as described in Subsections (1) through (6), until a candidate is declared elected;

362 (b) repeating the process described in Subsection (7)(a) for all candidates that are not

363 declared elected until another candidate is declared elected; and

364 (c) continuing the process described in Subsection (7)(b) until all at-large seats in the

365 race are filled.

366 (8) After a candidate is declared elected under Subsection (7), the election officer shall,

367 in repeating the process described in Subsections (1) through (6) to declare the next candidate

368 elected, add to the [~~vote~~] ranking totals the next valid preference vote of each voter whose

369 [~~vote~~] ranking was counted for a candidate already declared elected.

370 (9) An election officer for a participating municipality may choose to conduct a

371 primary election by using instant runoff voting in the manner described in Subsections (1)

372 through (6), except that:

373 (a) instead of determining whether a candidate receives more than 50% of the valid

374 preference [~~votes~~] rankings for a particular ballot-counting phase, the election officer shall

375 proceed to a subsequent ballot-counting stage, and exclude the candidate who receives the

376 fewest valid preference [~~votes~~] rankings in that phase, until twice the number of seats to be

377 filled in the race remain; and

378 (b) after complying with Subsection (9)(a), the election officer shall declare the

379 remaining candidates nominated to participate in the municipal general election.

380 (10) After completing all ballot-counting phases in a multi-candidate race, the election  
381 officer shall order a full recount of the ballots cast for that race if, in one or more of the  
382 ballot-counting phases:

383 (a) the difference between the number of rankings counted for a candidate who is  
384 declared elected and the number of rankings counted for any other candidate in the same  
385 ballot-counting phase is equal to or less than the product of the following, rounded up to the  
386 nearest whole number:

387 (i) the total number of voters who cast a valid ranking counted in that ballot-counting  
388 phase; and

389 (ii) the recount threshold; or

390 (b) the difference between the number of rankings counted for the candidate who  
391 received the fewest valid rankings in a ballot-counting phase and the number of rankings  
392 counted for any other candidate in the same ballot-counting phase is equal to or less than the  
393 product of the following, rounded up to the nearest whole number:

394 (i) the total number of voters who cast a valid ranking counted in that ballot-counting  
395 phase; and

396 (ii) the recount threshold.

397 (11) A recount described in Subsection (10):

398 (a) requires rescanning and tabulating all valid ballots; and

399 (b) provides for only one recount.

400 (12) Notwithstanding Section [20A-4-301](#), a board of municipal canvassers may extend  
401 the canvass deadline by up to seven additional days, if necessary, to conduct a recount required  
402 under Subsection (10).

403 Section 6. Section **20A-4-604** is amended to read:

404 **20A-4-604. Batch elimination.**

405 [(+)] In any ballot count conducted under Section [20A-4-603](#), the election officer may  
406 exclude candidates through batch elimination by, instead of excluding only one candidate in a

407 ballot-counting phase, excluding each candidate:

408           [(a)] (1) for which the number of remaining candidates with more valid [votes]  
409 rankings than that candidate is greater than or equal to the number of offices to be filled; and

410           [(b)(i)] (2) (a) for which the number of valid [votes] rankings counted for the candidate  
411 in the ballot-counting phase plus the number of [~~votes counting~~] rankings counted for all  
412 candidates with fewer valid [votes] rankings in the ballot-counting phase is less than the  
413 number of valid [votes] rankings for the candidate with the next highest amount of valid  
414 [votes] rankings in the ballot-counting phase; or

415           [(ii)] (b) who has fewer valid [votes] rankings in the ballot-counting phase than a  
416 candidate who is excluded under Subsection [(1)(b)(i)] (2)(a).

417           [(2) ~~The requirements for a recount before excluding a candidate under Subsection~~  
418 ~~20A-4-603(5) do not apply to candidates who are excluded through batch elimination.~~]