

1 H.337

2 Introduced by Representative Savage of Swanton

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Elections; recounts; election officials

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to change the election officials  
7 responsible for conducting a recount.

8 An act relating to election officials responsible for conducting a recount

9 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

10 Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2602a is amended to read:

11 § 2602a. APPOINTMENT OF RECOUNT COMMITTEE

12 (a) Upon receipt of a petition, the county clerk shall notify ~~the chairpersons~~  
13 ~~of the relevant county political committees~~ each town clerk within the county  
14 that a petition has been filed requesting a recount and advising them to submit  
15 immediately a list of nominees for individuals to serve on a recount committee.  
16 These individuals shall be past or present members of the town's board of civil  
17 authority or individuals who have been special election assistants of their town  
18 and who are qualified and have had experience in the counting of ballots. In  
19 the case of a recount in a primary election, the clerk shall notify all candidates  
20 for the office which is the subject of the recount, advising them to submit

1 immediately a list of nominees for individuals to serve on a recount committee.  
2 If a candidate for an office which is the subject of a recount is from a party  
3 which does not have a county committee, the clerk shall send a copy of the  
4 notice to the state committee of the party advising them to submit immediately  
5 a list of nominees for individuals to serve on a recount committee. If a  
6 candidate for an office which is the subject of a recount is independent, that  
7 candidate will be sent a copy of the notice and requested to submit  
8 immediately a similar list of nominees for individuals to serve on a recount  
9 committee. If a list of nominees is not delivered to the clerk with due speed,  
10 the clerk, before the judge sets the date for the recount, shall notify the  
11 appropriate candidates that they have 24 hours to submit lists of nominees for  
12 individuals to serve on the recount committee.

13 (b) The superior court shall set an early date for the recount, making  
14 appointments to the recount committee from among those nominated under  
15 this section. In making these appointments, the court shall appoint an equal  
16 number of persons from each party and from those persons representing an  
17 independent candidate. In the event a candidate has run as a candidate from  
18 two political parties, there shall be a total number of appointees from those two  
19 parties equal to the number of appointees of the opponent's party. After  
20 making the appointments, the court shall notify all candidates of the recount  
21 date at least five days in advance. The court shall order the town clerk or

1 clerks having custody of the ballots to be recounted appoint two election  
2 officials who are not members of the same political party, who shall transport  
3 them to the appropriate county clerks before the day set for the recount.

4 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 This act shall take effect on passage.