

Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

San Juan, P. R., October 28, 1952

Administrative
Bulletin
No. 14

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO
A PROCLAMATION

To provide the duty and obligation of poll officials to count the voters at the closing of the polling place immediately before the voting begins.

The following Resolution unanimously adopted by the Insular Board of Elections, at a meeting held on October 17, 1952, is hereby approved.

"RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 61(c) of the Election Law in force provides the following: "Once the voting has begun, the poll clerks shall, in a loud voice, call the voters to be identified and to vote, in the same order in which their names appear in the poll lists of each polling place";

WHEREAS, for the greater cleanness of the process of voting, and at the same time as a greater guarantee of the cleanness of the canvass, the number of voters present at each closed as well as closed-file polling place, should be counted, and the results stated in an act when the voting begins;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE INSULAR BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- It shall be the duty and obligation of the poll inspectors and clerks of each polling place, at the moment immediately before the voting begins, and therefore after the polling place has been closed, to count the number of voters present in the precinct of the closed polls or in the files, in the case of closed-file polling places, announcing in a loud voice the number of said voters present at the polling place, and immediately shall proceed to draw up an act stating the number of voters present, by filling the printed blank form of this act sent by the Insular Board of Elections for such purpose. Said act shall be signed by all poll inspectors and clerks present, who do not refuse to sign or who are not absent at the time this function must be performed. Any inspector or clerk who do not wishes to sign said act has the right to briefly explain in writing the reason for not doing so. By voters present it is understood and are counted as such, the inspectors, poll clerks, challengers, watchers and policemen of the polling place.

Section 2.- When the voting is ended, and before the canvass begins, it shall be recorded in an additional act that shall appear in the same form as the act to which is made reference in section one, the number of voters who voted with preferential vote at the polling place and who entered the poll after the voting had begun, and of the voters who can vote with preference at any polling place of the corresponding municipality; that is, the voters referred to in subdivisions (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) under the topic "Preference to vote" in pages 10, 11 and 12 of the "Manual of Elections", and furthermore it shall be recorded in said act the number of

voters present when the voters were counted before the voting began, but who did not vote because of not being legal voters of the polling place, which does not include the voters voting through affidavit as explained in section (b) of the topic "Voting Under Affidavit", in page 18 of the Manual of Elections.

Section 3.- It shall be the duty and obligation of the poll boards to include as first electoral document of said boards the act to which this Resolution refers and to send a copy in duplicate to the Insular Board of Elections together with the election material which is sent to said Board by law, delivering a copy of said act signed by all inspectors and poll clerks present and who do not refuse to sign or who are not absent at the time this function should be performed, to each of the inspectors of the parties represented at the polling place.

Section 4.- This Resolution shall take effect as soon as approved by the Governor of Puerto Rico and promulgated by the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here-
unto set my hand and caused
to be affixed the Great Seal
of the Commonwealth of Puerto
Rico, at the City of San Juan,
this 28th day of October, A. D.
nineteen hundred and fifty-two.

(SGD.) LUIS MUÑOZ MARIN
Governor

Promulgated according to law, this 28th day of October, 1952.

(Sgd.) N. ALMIROTY
Under Secretary of State