

**§ 163A-1181. New elections.**

(a) **When State Board May Order New Election.** – The State Board may order a new election, upon agreement of at least five of its members, in the case of any one or more of the following:

- (1) Ineligible voters sufficient in number to change the outcome of the election were allowed to vote in the election, and it is not possible from examination of the official ballots to determine how those ineligible voters voted and to correct the totals.
- (2) Eligible voters sufficient in number to change the outcome of the election were improperly prevented from voting.
- (3) Other irregularities affected a sufficient number of votes to change the outcome of the election.
- (4) Irregularities or improprieties occurred to such an extent that they taint the results of the entire election and cast doubt on its fairness.

(b) **State Board to Set Procedures.** – The State Board shall determine when a new election shall be held and shall set the schedule for publication of the notice, preparation of absentee official ballots, and the other actions necessary to conduct the election.

(c) **Eligibility to vote in the new election shall be determined by the voter's eligibility at the time of the new election, except that in a primary, no person who voted in the initial primary of one party shall vote in the new election in the primary of another party. The State Board shall adopt rules to effect the provisions of this subsection.**

(d) **Jurisdiction in Which New Election Held.** – The new election shall be held in the entire jurisdiction in which the original election was held.

(e) **Which Candidates to Be on Official Ballot.** – All the candidates who were listed on the official ballot in the original election shall be listed in the same order on the official ballot for the new election, except in either of the following:

- (1) If a candidate dies or otherwise becomes ineligible between the time of the original election and the new election, that candidate may be replaced in the same manner as if the vacancy occurred before the original election.
- (2) If the election is for a multiseat office, and the irregularities could not have affected the election of one or more of the candidates, the new election, upon agreement of at least five members of the State Board, may be held among only those candidates whose election could have been affected by the irregularities.

(f) **Tie Votes.** – If ineligible voters voted in an election and it is possible to determine from the official ballots the way in which those votes were cast and to correct the results, and consequently the election ends in a tie, the provisions of G.S. 163A-1176 concerning tie votes shall apply. (2001-398, s. 3; 2003-278, s. 8(a); 2008-150, s. 2(a); 2016-125, 4th Ex. Sess., s. 5(j); 2017-6, ss. 2, 3, 7(j).)