

California Election Code Sections
Post-Election Audit

15342.

Any name written upon a ballot for a qualified write-in candidate, including a reasonable facsimile of the spelling of a name, shall be counted for the office, if it is written in the blank space provided and voted as specified below:

(a) For voting systems in which write-in spaces appear directly below the list of candidates for that office and provide a voting space, no write-in vote shall be counted unless the voting space next to the write-in space is marked or slotted as directed in the voting instructions, except as provided in subdivision (f).

(b) For voting systems in which write-in spaces appear separately from the list of candidates for that office and do not provide a voting space, the name of the write-in candidate, if otherwise qualified, shall be counted if it is written in the manner described in the voting instructions.

(c) The use of pressure-sensitive stickers, glued stamps, or any other device not provided for in the voting procedures for the voting systems approved by the Secretary of State to indicate the name of the write-in candidate are not valid, and a name indicated by these methods shall not be counted.

(d) Neither a vote cast for a candidate whose name appears on the ballot nor a vote cast for a write-in candidate shall be counted if the voter has indicated, by a combination of marking and writing, a choice of more names than there are candidates to be nominated or elected to the office.

(e) All valid write-in votes shall be tabulated and certified to the elections official on forms provided for this purpose, and the write-in votes shall be added to the results of the count of the ballots at the counting place and be included in the official returns for the precinct.

(f) (1) In an election that uses a voting system described in subdivision (a), after tallying all eligible votes but prior to completion of the official canvass and the issuance of the certified statement of the results pursuant to this chapter, the elections official, upon the request of a qualified write-in candidate for an office being voted on in that election for an examination of undervotes that is received within five days of completion of the semiofficial canvass, may hand tally the remaining undervotes if any of the following is applicable:

(A) In the case of a primary election or a special election, the sum of the total number of votes cast for the write-in candidate and the total number of undervotes cast for the office but not examined pursuant to a hand tally is equal to or greater than the total number of votes cast for the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes for that office.

(B) In the case of a general election or a special runoff election, the sum of the total number of votes cast for the write-in candidate and the total number of undervotes cast for the office but not examined pursuant to a hand tally is equal to or greater than the total number of votes cast for the candidate receiving the highest number of votes for that office.

(C) In the case of an office for which a voter may vote for more than one candidate, the sum of the total number of votes cast for the write-in candidate and the total number of undervotes cast for the office but not examined pursuant to a hand tally is equal to or greater than the total number of votes cast for the candidate receiving the least number of votes that would be sufficient in order to be elected.

(2) The elections official may stop a hand tally conducted pursuant to this subdivision when the official determines that the applicable condition in any of subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of paragraph (1) is no longer applicable, or when all of the undervotes for the office have been examined.

(3) In conducting a hand tally pursuant to this subdivision, the elections official shall count a vote for the office if the intent of the voter can be determined, regardless of whether the voter has complied with the voting instructions. The elections official shall include the results of a hand tally conducted pursuant to this subdivision in the official canvass of the election.

(4) For purposes of this subdivision, “undervote” means a ballot on which a voter failed to cast any vote for a specific office or failed to cast the maximum number of votes permitted, as detected by an electronic, mechanical, or other vote-tabulating device.

(5) Notwithstanding Section 15624, a qualified write-in candidate is not responsible for the costs of a hand tally requested pursuant to this subdivision.

(g) This section does not prohibit a request for a recount.

(Amended by Stats. 2011, Ch. 190, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2012.)

15342.5.

In the event of a manual recount conducted pursuant to Section 15610 or requested pursuant to Section 15620 or 15621, the process set forth in Section 15342 shall be liberally construed to ensure that each ballot is counted if the intent of the voter can be determined, regardless of whether the voter has complied with the voting instructions.

15360.

(a) During the official canvass of every election in which a voting system is used, the official conducting the election shall conduct a public manual tally of the ballots tabulated by those devices, including vote by mail ballots, using either of the following methods:

(1) (A) A public manual tally of the ballots, including vote by mail ballots, cast in 1 percent of the precincts chosen at random by the elections official. If 1 percent of the precincts is less than one whole precinct, the tally shall be conducted in one precinct chosen at random by the elections official.

(B) (i) In addition to the 1 percent manual tally, the elections official shall, for each race not included in the initial group of precincts, count one additional precinct. The manual tally shall apply only to the race not previously counted.

(ii) Additional precincts for the manual tally may be selected at the discretion of the elections official.

(2) A two-part public manual tally, which includes both of the following:

(A) A public manual tally of the ballots, not including vote by mail ballots, cast in 1 percent of the precincts chosen at random by the elections official and conducted pursuant to paragraph (1).

(B) (i) A public manual tally of not less than 1 percent of the vote by mail ballots cast in the election. Batches of vote by mail ballots shall be chosen at random by the elections official.

(ii) For the purposes of this section, a “batch” means a set of ballots tabulated by the voting system devices, for which the voting system can produce a report of the votes cast.

(iii) (I) In addition to the 1 percent manual tally of the vote by mail ballots, the elections official shall, for each race not included in the initial 1 percent manual tally of vote by mail ballots, count one additional batch of vote by mail ballots. The manual tally shall apply only to the race not previously counted.

(II) Additional batches for the manual tally may be selected at the discretion of the elections official.

(b) If vote by mail ballots are cast on a direct recording electronic voting system at the office of an elections official or at a satellite location of the office of an elections official pursuant to Section 3018, the official conducting the election shall either include those ballots in the manual tally conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) or conduct a public manual tally of those ballots cast on no fewer than 1 percent of all the direct recording electronic voting machines used in that election chosen at random by the elections official.

(c) The elections official shall use either a random number generator or other method specified in regulations that shall be adopted by the Secretary of State to randomly choose the initial precincts, batches of vote by mail ballots, or direct recording electronic voting machines subject to the public manual tally.

(d) The manual tally shall be a public process, with the official conducting the election providing at least a five-day public notice of the time and place of the manual tally and of the time and place of the

selection of the precincts, batches, or direct recording electronic voting machines subject to the public manual tally prior to conducting the selection and tally.

(e) The official conducting the election shall include a report on the results of the 1 percent manual tally in the certification of the official canvass of the vote. This report shall identify any discrepancies between the machine count and the manual tally and a description of how each of these discrepancies was resolved. In resolving any discrepancy involving a vote recorded by means of a punchcard voting system or by electronic or electromechanical vote tabulating devices, the voter verified paper audit trail shall govern if there is a discrepancy between it and the electronic record.

15560.

(a) The Secretary of State is authorized to establish a postcanvass risk-limiting audit pilot program in five or more counties to improve the accuracy of, and public confidence in, election results. The Secretary of State is encouraged to include urban and rural counties; counties from northern, central, and southern California; and counties with various different voting systems.

(b) The pilot program described in subdivision (a) shall be conducted as follows:

(1) During the year 2011, each county that chooses to participate in the pilot program shall conduct a postcanvass risk-limiting audit of one or more contests after each election in that county.

(2) An elections official conducting an audit pursuant to this section shall do all of the following:

(A) Provide at least a five-day public notice of the time and place of the random selection of the audit units to be manually tallied and of the time and place of the audit.

(B) Make available to the public a report of the vote tabulating device results for the contest, including the results for each audit unit in the contest, prior to the random selection of audit units to be manually tallied and prior to the commencement of the audit.

(C) Conduct the audit upon tabulation of the unofficial final results or upon completion of the official canvass for the election.

(D) Conduct the audit in public view by hand without the use of electronic scanning equipment using the tally procedures established by Section 15360 for conducting a manual tally.

(3) On or before March 1, 2012, the Secretary of State shall report to the Legislature on the effectiveness and efficiency of postcanvass risk-limiting audits conducted pursuant to this section. The report shall include an analysis of the efficiency of postcanvass risk-limiting audits, including the costs of performing the audits, as compared to the 1-percent manual tallies conducted in the same election pursuant to Section 15360.

(c) An audit shall not be conducted pursuant to this section with respect to a state or multijurisdictional contest unless all of the counties involved in the contest choose to participate in the pilot program authorized by this section.

(d) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Audit unit" means a precinct, a set of ballots, or a single ballot. A precinct, a set of ballots, or a single ballot may be used as an audit unit for purposes of this section only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(A) The relevant vote tabulating device is able to produce a report of the votes cast in the precinct, set of ballots, or single ballot.

(B) The elections official is able to match the report described in subparagraph (A) with the ballots corresponding to the report for purposes of conducting an audit pursuant to this section.

(C) Each ballot is assigned to not more than one audit unit.

(2) "Contest" means an election for an office or for a measure. "Contest" shall not include either of the following:

(A) An election for a political party central committee, as provided in Division 7 (commencing with Section 7000).

(B) An advisory election, as provided in Section 9603.

(3) "Risk-limiting audit" means a manual tally employing a statistical method that ensures a large, predetermined minimum chance of requiring a full manual tally whenever a full manual tally would show an electoral outcome that differs from the outcome reported by the vote tabulating device for the audited contest. A risk-limiting audit shall begin with a hand tally of the votes in one or more audit units and shall continue to hand tally votes in additional audit units until there is strong statistical evidence that the electoral outcome is correct. In the event that counting additional audit units does not provide strong statistical evidence that the electoral outcome is correct, the audit shall continue until there has been a full manual tally to determine the correct electoral outcome of the audited contest.

(4) "Unofficial final results" means election results tabulated pursuant to an official canvass conducted pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 15300) but not yet reported to the governing board or the Secretary of State pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 15302.

15601.

(a) The Secretary of State, within the Secretary of State's existing budget, shall adopt regulations no later than January 1, 2008, for each voting system approved for use in the state and specify the procedures for recounting ballots, including vote by mail and provisional ballots, using those voting systems.

(b) No later than January 1, 2018, the Secretary of State shall revise and adopt regulations specifying procedures for recounting ballots, including regulations establishing guidelines for charges a county elections official may impose when conducting a manual recount pursuant to this chapter.

15610.

If no election contest is pending wherein a recount of the ballots in a precinct has been or will be ordered, the elections official may order that the ballots voted in the precinct be publicly recounted if both of the following apply:

(a) The elections official has reasonable cause to believe the ballots in the precinct have been miscounted.

(b) The elections official has examined, under oath, the precinct board members or, in the case of ballots counted by a central counting system, the counting board members, and they are unable to explain the returns of their respective precincts.

15620.

(a) Following completion of the official canvass and again following completion of any postcanvass risk-limiting audit conducted pursuant to Section 15560, any voter may, within five days thereafter, file with the elections official responsible for conducting an election in the county wherein the recount is sought a written request for a recount of the votes cast for candidates for any office, for slates of presidential electors, or for or against any measure, provided the office, slate, or measure is not voted on statewide. The request shall specify on behalf of which candidate, slate of electors, or position on a measure (affirmative or negative) it is filed.

(b) If an election is conducted in more than one county, the request for the recount may be filed by any voter within five days, beginning on the 31st day after the election, with the elections official of, and the recount may be conducted within, any or all of the affected counties.

(c) For the purposes of this section, "completion of the canvass" shall be presumed to be that time when the elections official signs the certified statement of the results of the election except that, in the case of a city election, if a city council canvasses the returns itself and does not order the elections official to conduct the canvass, "completion of the canvass" shall be presumed to be that time when the governing body declares the persons elected or the measures approved or defeated.

(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15621.

(a) Following completion of the official canvass any voter may, within five days beginning on the 31st day after a statewide election, file with the Secretary of State a written request for a recount of the votes cast for candidates for any statewide office or for or against any measure voted on statewide. Additionally, any voter may file with the Secretary of State a written request for a recount of the votes cast for candidates for any statewide office or for or against any measure voted on statewide within five days following completion of any postcanvass risk-limiting audit conducted pursuant to Section 15560. A request filed pursuant to this section shall specify in which county or counties the recount is sought and shall specify on behalf of which candidate, slate of electors, or position on a measure (affirmative or negative) it is filed.

(b) The Secretary of State shall forthwith send by registered mail one copy of the request to the elections official of each county in which a recount of the votes is sought.

(c) All the other provisions of this article shall apply to recounts conducted under this section.

(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15621.5.

If more than one voter requests a recount of the same office or measure pursuant to Section 15620 or 15621, and at least one request is for a manual recount, the county elections official of a county subject to multiple requests as described in this section shall conduct only one manual recount of the ballots subject to recount, the result of which shall be controlling.

(Added by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15622.

The request may specify the order in which the precincts shall be recounted.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

15623.

Any time during the conduct of a recount and for 24 hours thereafter, any other voter may request the recount of any precincts in an election for the same office, slate of presidential electors, or measure not recounted as a result of the original request.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

15624.

The voter or the campaign committee, as defined in Section 82013 of the Government Code, represented by the voter filing the request seeking the recount shall, before the recount is commenced and at the beginning of each day following, deposit with the elections official a sum as required by the elections official to cover the cost of the recount for that day. The money deposited shall be returned to the depositor if, upon completion of the recount, the candidate, slate of presidential electors, or the position on the measure (affirmative or negative) for which the declaration is filed is found to have received the plurality of votes cast which it had not received according to the official canvass or, in an election where there are two or more candidates, the recount results in the candidate for whom the recount was requested appearing on the ballot in a subsequent runoff election or general election who would not have so appeared in the absence of the recount. The depositor shall be entitled to the return of any money deposited in excess of the cost of the recount if the candidate, slate, or position on the measure has not received the plurality of the votes cast or, in an election where there are two or more candidates, the recount does not result in the candidate for whom the recount was requested appearing

on the ballot in a subsequent runoff or general election as a result of the recount. Money not required to be refunded shall be deposited in the appropriate public treasury.

(Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 904, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2015.)

15625.

The recount shall be conducted under the supervision of the elections official by special recount boards consisting of four voters of the county appointed by the elections official. Each member of a recount board shall receive the same compensation per day as is paid in the jurisdiction within which the recount is being conducted to members of precinct boards, other than inspectors, to be paid out of the appropriate public treasury.

If the office of the elections official is the subject of the recount, the governing body shall appoint an officer, other than the elections official, to appoint and supervise the special recount boards.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

15626.

The recount shall be commenced not more than seven days following the receipt by the elections official of the request or order for the recount under Section 15620, 15621, or 15645 and shall be continued daily, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays excepted, for not less than six hours each day until completed. The recount shall not be commenced until the first day following notification of the individuals specified in Section 15628.

(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 5. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15627.

(a) If the votes subject to recount were cast or tabulated by a voting system, the voter requesting the recount shall, for each set of ballots cast or tabulated by a type of voting system, select whether the recount shall be conducted manually, or by means of the voting system used originally. Only one method of recount may be used for all ballots cast or tabulated by the same type of voting system.

(b) For purposes of direct recording electronic voting systems, "conducted manually" means that the voter verified paper audit trail of the electronically recorded vote is counted manually, as selected by the voter who requests the recount.

(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 6. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15628.

Not less than one day prior to commencement of the recount, the elections official shall post a notice as to the date and place of the recount and shall notify the following persons of it in person or by any federally regulated overnight mail service:

(a) All candidates for any office the votes for which are to be recounted.

(b) Authorized representatives of presidential candidates to whom electors are pledged if the votes to be recounted were cast for presidential electors.

(c) Proponents of any initiative or referendum or persons filing ballot arguments for or against any initiative, referendum, or measure placed on the ballot by the governing body the votes for which are to be recounted.

(d) The Secretary of State in the case of a recount of the votes cast for candidates for any state office, presidential electors, the House of Representatives of the United States, the Senate of the United States, or delegates to a national convention or on any state measure.

(Amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 199, Sec. 48. Effective January 1, 1999.)

15629.

The recount shall be conducted publicly.
(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

15630.

All ballots, whether voted or not, and any other relevant material, may be examined as part of any recount if the voter filing the declaration requesting the recount so requests.
No examination of any ballot shall include touching or handling the ballot without the express consent of the elections official or the election officer supervising the special recount board. No ballot may be touched or handled during the examination unless the elections official or the elections officer supervising the special recount is present to observe the examination.
Except as provided in this section no ballot shall be touched or handled by any person during the recount unless that person is the elections official, a person acting at the direction of the elections official, a member of the special recount board, or by order of the superior court.
(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

15631.

On recount, ballots may be challenged for incompleteness, ambiguity, or other defects, in accordance with the following procedure:
(a) The person challenging the ballot shall state the reason for the challenge.
(b) The official counting the ballot shall count it as he or she believes proper and then set it aside with a notation as to how it was counted.
(c) The elections official shall, before the recount is completed, determine whether the challenge is to be allowed. The decision of the elections official is final.
(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

15632.

In lieu of the returns as reported in the official canvass, upon completion of the recount showing that a different candidate was nominated or elected, that a different presidential slate of electors received a plurality of the votes, or that a measure was defeated instead of approved or approved instead of defeated, there shall be entered the result of the recount in each precinct affected, which result shall, for all purposes thereafter, be the official returns of those precincts for the office, slates of presidential electors, or measure involved in the recount. If the office, slates of presidential electors, or measure are not voted on statewide, the results of any recount which is not completed by counting the votes in each and every precinct in the jurisdiction within which votes were cast on the candidates for the office, on the slates of electors, or on the measure in question shall be declared null and void. If the office, slates of presidential electors, or measure are voted on statewide, the results of any recount will be declared null and void where there is not recounted each vote cast statewide for the office, slates, or measure.
(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 7. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15633.

A copy of the results of any recount conducted pursuant to this chapter shall be posted conspicuously in the office of the elections official.
(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

15634.

This chapter does not:

(a) Authorize the opening or recounting of ballots for any precinct except for the purposes specified in this chapter.

(b) Limit other provisions of law regarding an election contest or recount.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

15640.

(a) When requested by the board of supervisors or the grand jury, the district attorney may petition the superior court for an order directing a public recount to be made of ballots tabulated by a voting system in any precincts in the county that it designates for any election occurring not over 25 days before the request. The request and petition shall be made only on one or more of the following grounds, and the order may be issued only with a finding that there is probable cause to believe that one or more of the grounds exist:

(1) Misconduct by anyone sufficient to make it likely that the result of the election was affected as to the successful candidates or propositions or tie holders, including any of the conduct specified in Section 16100.

(2) Errors or failures, whether electronic, mechanical or otherwise, in the safekeeping, handling, tallying, counting, recording, or certification of the ballots or votes cast, sufficient to make it likely that the result of the election was affected as to the successful candidates or propositions or tie holders, or sufficient to cast substantial doubt on the substantial accuracy of the results without regard to affecting any result.

The petition shall be set for hearing and may be opposed by any interested party.

(b) The court may order any further recounts that it may deem proper based on the results of the recounts provided for in subdivision (a) or in Section 15645, and shall declare the results of all the recounts, and shall determine and order corrected the results of any election affected by any recount.

(c) The court may order payment of the costs of any such recount in whole or in just proportion by any person or any public agency, or both, who petition for a recount. In the case of public agencies the costs shall be provided for and paid pursuant to Section 19212.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

15641.

Section 15001 shall apply unless a court orders the program held pending the conclusion of litigation challenging the outcome of an election. If court action or an official recount is initiated while the program is on deposit, the Secretary of State shall make the program available to the court or the elections official in whose jurisdiction the court action or recount takes place, upon written request.

(Amended by Stats. 2003, Ch. 810, Sec. 22. Effective January 1, 2004.)

15642.

Any tape, diskette, cartridge, or other magnetic or electronic storage medium used in the programming of vote totals shall be kept in a secure location and, if there is a canvass of votes, the officer entrusted with the magnetic storage medium shall submit his or her affidavit stating that they are the true media used in the election and have not been altered.

(Amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 1073, Sec. 42. Effective January 1, 1999.)

15645.

(a) (1) Within five days after the Secretary of State files a statement of the vote, as required by subdivision (b) of Section 15501, the Governor may order a state-funded manual recount of all votes cast for a statewide office or state ballot measure if any of the following occurs, except as provided in paragraph (3):

(A) The official canvass of returns in a statewide primary election shows that the difference in the number of votes received by the second and third place candidates for a statewide office is less than or equal to the lesser of 1,000 votes or 0.00015 of the number of all votes cast for that office except as provided in paragraph (2).

(B) The official canvass of returns in a statewide general election shows that the difference in the number of votes received by the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for a statewide office is less than or equal to the lesser of 1,000 votes or 0.00015 of the number of all votes cast for that office.

(C) The official canvass of returns in a statewide election shows that the difference in the number of votes cast for and against a state ballot measure is less than or equal to the lesser of 1,000 votes or 0.00015 of the number of all votes cast on the measure.

(2) The Governor shall not order a state-funded manual recount of all votes cast for the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction pursuant to this section unless the official canvass of returns in a statewide primary election shows either of the following:

(A) The number of votes received by the candidate receiving the greatest number of votes was either of the following:

(i) Between 0.49985 and 0.50015, inclusive, of the number of all votes cast.

(ii) Within 1,000 votes of 50 percent of the number of all votes cast.

(B) No candidate for the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction received votes on a majority of all the ballots cast for candidates for that office and the difference in the number of votes received by the second and third place candidates for that office was less than or equal to the lesser of 1,000 votes or 0.00015 of the number of all votes cast for that office.

(3) If the conditions set forth in paragraph (1) are satisfied with respect to the number of votes cast for the office of Governor, the Secretary of State, but not the Governor, may order a state-funded manual recount pursuant to this section.

(4) For purposes of this subdivision, "statewide office" means the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Controller, Insurance Commissioner, Secretary of State, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Treasurer, or Member of the United States Senate.

(b) If a state-funded recount is conducted pursuant to this section, no other recount shall be conducted.

(c) The State shall reimburse counties for costs resulting from conducting a manual recount pursuant to this section in an expeditious manner upon certification of those costs.

(Added by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 8. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15646.

(a) Upon the Governor or Secretary of State ordering a recount pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 15645, the Secretary of State shall notify the elections official of each county and shall direct the county elections officials to recount all the votes cast for the office or for and against the state ballot measure.

(b) (1) While conducting a recount pursuant to Section 15645, a county elections official shall also review ballots rejected pursuant to Section 15154 to ensure that no ballots were improperly discarded during the initial canvass.

(2) The process of reviewing rejected ballots pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be open to members of the public, including persons associated with a campaign or measure.

(c) The elections official in each county shall complete a recount pursuant to this section as follows:

(1) In a primary election, by three business days before the Secretary of State issues the certified list of candidates for the associated general election pursuant to Section 8120.

(2) In a general election, within 60 days of the Governor or Secretary of State ordering the recount.

(Added by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 8. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15647.

All the provisions of Article 3 (commencing with Section 15620), except Sections 15620, 15621, 15622, 15623, 15624, and 15627, shall apply to this article unless otherwise provided herein.

(Added by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 8. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15648.

The Secretary of State may adopt, amend, and repeal rules and regulations necessary for the administration of this article.

(Added by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 8. Effective January 1, 2016.)

15649.

A county elections official shall only be required to conduct a recount pursuant to this article to the extent funds are appropriated for purposes of this article in the annual Budget Act or other statute.

(Added by Stats. 2015, Ch. 723, Sec. 8. Effective January 1, 2016.)