LAW NO: 298

LAW ON BASIC PROVISIONS ON ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTERS (*)

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CHAPTER ONE
PRINCIPLES

THE SCOPE OF THE LAW
ARTICLE 1 - (Amended by Law No. 3270 on 28.3.1986) The provisions of this Law shall apply for elections of deputies, members of provincial general councils, mayors, members of municipal councils, chief aldermen, members of aldermen council, aldermen according to specific laws pertaining to each election and referenda on laws related to amending the Constitution.

PRINCIPLES OF ELECTION
ARTICLE 2 - Elections are held based on the principles of free, equal and single stage public voting. Voters cast their votes in person.
(*) Pursuant to Article 43 of Law no. 2893 dated June 10th 1983, "provisions related to the Senate of the Republic" in the clauses of Law no. 298 have been deleted.
Votes shall be cast by ballot.
Counting, sorting out, listing and registering of votes shall be made publicly.

PROVINCIAL ELECTION DISTRICT
ARTICLE 3 - Each province shall be a provincial election district provided that classifications pertaining to districts in related special laws are reserved.

COUNTY ELECTION DISTRICT
ARTICLE 4 - Each county shall be regarded a county election district.

BALLOT BOX ZONE
ARTICLE 5 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) For elections, each county election district is divided into a required number of ballot box zones.
(Paragraph 2 amended by Law 3959 on 28.12.1993) A ballot box zone essentially covers 200 voters in villages and 150 voters in towns and cities. Districts consisting of several units of settlement such as neighbourhoods or communities may be divided into a required number of ballot box zones, notwithstanding the existence of the number of voters specified above, by considering the distance and means of access to the ballot box.
(Paragraph 3 was abolished by Article 1 of Law no. 3959 enacted on December 28th 1993.) (*)

VOTERS
ARTICLE 6 - (Amended by Law No. 4125 on 27.10.1995) Every Turkish citizen who has completed the age of eighteen shall be entitled to vote and to participate in referenda).

PERSONS PROHIBITED FROM VOTING
ARTICLE 7 - The following shall not be eligible for voting:
1. Privates, corporals or sergeants in active service in Turkish Armed Forces (those at leave due to any cause whatsoever shall strictly be subject to this provision),
2. Military school students,

3. (Annex: 2839 - 10.6.1983) (Amended by Law No. 4125 on 27.10.1995) Convicts in penalty execution establishments.

NON-VOTERS

ARTICLE 8 - The following shall not be entitled to cast vote:

1. Those place under the care of a guardian,
2. Persons prohibited from public service.

CHAPTER TWO
ELECTION BOARDS

EXECUTION OF ELECTION PROCEDURES

ARTICLE 9 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Procedures related to election shall be executed by election boards.

Provincial governors, district governors, mayors, chief aldermen and all public servants shall be obliged to provide, timely, correctly and without delay, all information and documents required by election boards for all election procedures and for issuing voter registers.

ELECTION BOARDS

ARTICLE 10 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) A Supreme Board of Elections shall sit in Ankara, in addition to a provincial election board in each election district, a county election board in each county election district and a ballot box committee for each ballot box.

Also, a central district election board shall be established in provincial central towns.

(*) Shall not apply for the next general local elections pursuant to Provisional Article 2 of Law no. 3959 dated December 28th 1993.

Several county election boards shall be established in counties having a population larger than 200,000 based on the last census by taking as basis the boundaries of villages and communities (election zones) and considering equality in population to the extent possible.

Other municipalities within a county (including the central district) excluding provincial municipalities and county municipalities shall be affiliated to one of the district election boards together with all communities they cover as a whole without fragmenting.

SUPREME BOARD OF ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 11 - (Amended by Law No. 3330 - 19.2.1987) Supreme Board of Elections shall consists of seven principal and four alternate members. Six of the members shall be appointed by the Supreme Court of Appeals and five members by the Supreme Council of State by ballot amongst their own members, with absolute majority of the full number of members. The members so appointed shall elect a chairman and a vice chairman amongst themselves by ballot and with absolute majority of votes.

Members of the Supreme Board of Elections shall take office for a period of six years. A member whose term of office is terminated may be re-elected.

Former members shall continue to hold office until all new members are elected.

The vice-chairman shall assist the chairman in the performance of his duties and represent the chairman in his absence. In case of absence of the vice-chairman, the oldest member shall preside the board.

Following each renewal election, two of each of the members nominated by the Supreme Court of Appeals and the Supreme Council of State shall be appointed as alternate members by drawing names. The chairman and the vice-chairman shall not participate in drawing names.

If the chairman or the vice-chairman resigns, the Supreme Board of Elections shall hold an election for the vacancy; the member resigning from the chairman or vice-chairman position shall replace the position of the member appointed to fill his former position.

(Annexed paragraph: 4265 - 5.6.1997) The Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections shall be regarded at leave from the organisation in which he is employed. However, the

chairman shall continue to benefit from all salaries, allowances, as well as all salary raises, premiums and personnel rights as before.
(Annexed paragraphs: 4448 - 26.8.1999) An "Administrative and Financial Affairs Directorate" has been established within the Supreme Board of Elections to perform secretarial, administrative, financial and other ancillary services.
The Director and branch office managers shall be appointed under a resolution of the Supreme Board of Elections, upon proposition of the Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections and other personnel shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections.
The provisions of paragraphs two and three of Article 30 hereof related to transfer of personnel to other institutions shall apply for the Government Agency and its personnel.

TIME FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS

ARTICLE 12 - (Amended by Law No. 3330 on 19.2.1987) An election shall be held in the second half of January once every three years to substitute members of the Supreme Board of Elections whose terms of office have expired.
In case of any decrease in the number of members during the said period, the number shall be completed pursuant to the preceding Article. A member so appointed shall complete the term of office of his predecessor. If the election is held due to resignation of the chairman or the vice-chairman, following election of the chairman or the vice-chairman upon participation of the new member, the position of the member shall be determined depending on the result of the election and according to the principle specified in the last paragraph of Article 11.

RESOLUTIONS

ARTICLE 13 - The Supreme Board of Elections shall resolve with absolute majority of votes and in case of an equilibrium of votes, the chairman shall have the casting vote.
Final resolutions as well as interpretations of the Supreme Board of Elections shall be published in the Official Gazette as soon as possible.

DUTIES AND POWERS

ARTICLE 14 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 - 17.5.1979) The duties and powers of the Supreme Board of Elections are given in the following:

1. (Amended by Law No. 3420 on 31.3.1988) To have produced a sufficient quantity of the envelopes in which the ballot papers shall be inserted in elections, such envelopes being different from the colours and dimensions of envelopes either found in the market and produced or toll produced by the State Materials Office and bearing a watermark reading "The Republic of Turkey, the Supreme Board of Elections" and being in different colours and dimensions for each election, if necessary; and to supervise every stage of the production of the said envelopes from the production of paper pulp up until the formation and delivery of the envelopes, by (a) member(s) of the Board to be appointed by the Chairman considering the volume, duration and nature of the work to be performed or by the chairman of the county election board, or by judges who are the chairman or members of the provincial election board; and to send the envelopes to provincial election boards, against certificates of receipt, in quantities to meet the requirements of each province.
2. To retain the moulds of the watermark "The Republic of Turkey, the Supreme Board of Elections" necessary for production of the special envelopes and the dimension moulds of the moulds following production of papers and envelopes in necessary quantities.
   To have printed integrated ballot papers bearing the watermark "The Republic of Turkey, the Supreme Board of Elections" and which can be folded into an envelope by gluing one of the sides with each 400 papers and each pack of 400 bearing the same number and to dispatch a pack for each ballot box to county election boards.
   To have imported or produced the special paint to mark the finger of each voter following casting of votes and provide the paint to ballot-box on time.

3. To have designed and printed all kinds of papers such as forms, documents, lists, etc. required for all procedures specified in this Law and to have the same provided to provincial and county election boards on time and in required quantities.
4. (Amended by Law No. 3420 on 31.3.1988) to determine and announce, within the second week of the months specified for re-establishment of county election boards, the names of political parties which have convened their first congress according to their regulations and which have established their provincial and county organisations in at least half of the provinces not later that six months in advance.
5. To provide formation of provincial and county election boards, to settle any objection to formation, procedures and resolutions of provincial election boards, before the day of election and in such speed as required by the subject matter of the objection.
6. To make final decisions on objections to candidates, in accordance with this Law and with the special laws.
7. To examine immediately and make final decision on objections to resolutions of provincial election boards regarding procedures to be performed on election day.
8. To review and make final decision on objections to minutes issued by provincial election boards .
9. To examine and pass final resolutions on objections made after the election within the period of time allowed, which may affect the result of the election and require cancellation of election within the election district or cancellation of the return(s) of one or more of candidates elected in that district notwithstanding compliance thereof to hierarchy and times of objections made to sub-committees.
10. To answer immediately any question by provincial election boards with respect to performance of electoral procedures and to take measures for performance of elections smoothly throughout the whole country and to issue timely necessary communiqués with that respect.
11. (Amended by Law No. 3420 on 31.3.1988) To participate in general and interim elections for deputies and elections for mayor, municipal council, provincial general council, political parties shall have to establish their organisations in at least half of the provinces and to convene their main congress not later than within six months or have a group in the Grand National Assembly.
    Organisation in a province shall require establishment of an organisation in at least one third of the counties within that province including the central county. The Supreme Board of Elections shall determine the political parties eligible for participating in elections under the said principles and announce these parties within ten days following the date of beginning of the election or if the election is repeated, within five days following the publication of the decision to repeat.
12. To designate the principles of establishment and operation of Voter Registers General Directorate, publish respective regulations, issue and audit programs.
13. To perform other duties imposed thereon by the Law.

PROVINCIAL ELECTION BOARD

ARTICLE 15 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The provincial election board shall be established within the last week of January once every two years, by three judges of highest rank commissioned within the provincial centre town. The judge with the highest rank shall be the chairman of the board which shall have two alternate members appointed amongst judges. The provincial election board so established shall take office for a period of two years.

For the chairman and principal and alternate memberships of the board, the most senior judge or in case of equal seniority, the oldest judge shall be appointed.

If any of the judges appointed as the chairman of the provincial election board and the principal and alternate members of the said board as well as the chairman of county election board fail to perform their duties due to any cause whatsoever, and if the said position can not be substituted with a judge within the same location, a judge within the jurisdiction of the criminal court of that location shall be appointed to the said position by the related authority,

provided that resignation of the said judge from his principal office does not create any hindrance.
Where it is impossible to fill vacant posts with judges within the jurisdiction of the criminal court, one of the judges within the jurisdiction of a criminal court nearest in location, to the criminal court in question shall be authorised to take the vacant post duly, as set forth above.
The election board shall be presided by a member to be elected by ballot amongst the members of the board until the judge so authorised takes office.

DUTIES AND POWERS

ARTICLE 16 - Main duties and powers of the chairman of the provincial election board are the following:

1. To take all measures and supervise election procedures to provide smooth performance of the election within the provincial election district,
2. To send ballot boxes and other election tools and supplies specified by the law to county election boards,
3. To examine and immediately resolve on objections to formation, procedures and decisions of county election boards,
4. To answer immediately any questions forwarded by county election boards with respect to performance of election procedures,
5. To receive and announce candidate declarations or lists, to examine objections made thereon, and to decide on declarations or lists considered invalid, to send where necessary and announce temporary and final candidate lists,
6. To issue minutes for provincial election district by combining minutes received from county election boards affiliated to the province,
7. To perform other duties imposed by the Law.

REPRESENTATIVES OF POLITICAL PARTIES

ARTICLE 17 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Out of political parties having at least one member elected for legislative councils from the list of the said political party or political parties determined and announced by provincial election board pursuant to the fourth paragraph of Article 14 in the last general and interim elections for deputies those having an organisation in that province and county shall each have a representative in provincial and county election boards.
These representatives shall participate in all procedures and discussions of the board but shall not be entitled to exercise votes. However, parties not able to participate in elections as announced by the Supreme Board of Elections pursuant to subparagraph eleven of Article 14 or parties not participating in election within that election district shall be deprived of their right to have a representative in these boards.
If the representatives of the political parties express their opinions on the matters discussed, the board members shall, after listening to such opinions, decide among themselves and notify their decision to the representatives.
Failure of the representatives of political parties shall not hinder discussion of matters.

COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

ARTICLE 18 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The county election board shall be established in the last week of January once every two years, by a chairman and six principal and six alternate members and shall take office for a period of two years. The highest ranked judge within the county shall be the chairman of the board which shall convene with the participation of its principal members. In the absence of a principal member, the alternate member shall be called to meeting.
In case of several judges of equal ranks within the county, the judge with highest seniority, or, in case of equilibrium of seniority, the oldest judge shall preside the meetings.
Central county election boards to be established in provincial centre towns shall be presided by the second highest ranking judge in terms of seniority and age, after the judge to preside provincial election boards.

(Annexed paragraph 4381 - 31.7.1998) Temporary county election boards may be established in counties with the number of voters higher than 25,000 to perform the duties of distributing and collecting election documents, training of the chairmen and at least one member of ballot-box committees, obtaining results from ballot-box committees and, after combining the results, delivering the same to county election board to which they are affiliated. These boards shall consist of a chairman and six board members.
These boards shall consist of one chairman and six members and be presided by highest rank- judges in terms of seniority and age after the judges assigned to provincial and county election boards. Two members of the board shall be appointed by the chairman of the board from amongst public servants. Four members and their four alternates shall be provided from political parties pursuant to Article 19. The procedures and principles of operation of these boards, the counties where they shall be established and the number of the boards as well as their term of office shall be designated by the Supreme Board of Elections.

MEMBERS OF COUNTY ELECTION BOARDS
ARTICLE 19 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Four principal and four alternate members of the first county election board shall be provided from political parties. These members shall be designated as given in the follow-:
The chairman of the county election board shall, for reestablishment of the board, in the begin- of the times specified in the article above, notify to four political parties having an organisation in the county and which have taken the highest votes in that county in the last general elections, to give the names of one principal and one alternate member for each within two days.
If the number of political parties designated as above or giving names within the specified period of time is less than four, the vacant memberships shall be completed with the same method, from other political parties satisfying the said conditions, according to the number of votes they have obtained in the county.
Names shall be drawn in case of equilibrium in votes.
If it is not possible to designate all of the four principal and alternate members despite application of the foregoing provisions, names shall be drawn amongst political parties announced by the Supreme Board of Elections and having organisation in that county pursuant to subparagraph four of article 14. according to. Nominees notified by the political parties equal to the number of vacant membership as provided hereabove shall be members to the county election board.
Vacant membership out of those specified herein by the county election board shall be filled according to provisions of the second paragraph.
2. Vacant principal and alternate memberships following the other two principal and alternate memberships the procedures mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall be determined by drawing names amongst persons in the first eighth standing of the list to be issued on the basis of times of service within the county, showing government officers commissioned in the county centre and with total time of service more than ten years, not participated in legislative councils or local administration elections as a candidate or nominee candidate for any political party and not registered in any political party before. Drawing names shall be done by the chairman of the county election board before principal members to be designated according to the provisions of the first paragraph. The first names drawn shall be principal members and the next shall be alternate members. This way, the alternative of each principal member shall be determined. However, officers in the same ministry can not be assigned to more than one principal membership, compulsory cases being reserved.
3. The chairman of the county election board shall notify to political parties participating in name drawing the date and time when the names shall be drawn.
Vacancies in principal memberships within the term of office shall be filled by substitution with the alternate member of the resigning principal member. Vacancies in alternate members shall be filled pursuant to provisions related to election of the resigning member according to qualifications thereof.

The membership of representatives of parties not able to participate in elections notified in the announcement specified in Article 14 or of parties not participating in election within that election district shall be terminated. Memberships so vacated shall be designated by application of the provisions of subparagraph one with respect to parties participating in elections within that election district and not having members in the county election board.
A member so appointed to the vacated office in the county election board shall complete the term of office of his predecessor.

DUTIES AND POWERS

ARTICLE 20 - Main duties and powers of county election boards are the following:

1. To take all measures and supervise election procedures to provide smooth performance of the election within the county election district,
2. To establish ballot-box committees,
3. To send ballot boxes and other election tools and supplies specified by the law to county election boards,
4. To examine and immediately resolve on objections to formation, procedures and decisions of ballot-box committees,
5. To answer immediately any questions forwarded by chairmen of ballot-box committees with respect to performance of election procedures,
6. To issue minutes for county election district by combining minutes received from ballot-box committees within the county election district and deliver the same immediately to county election boards together with other documents related to election procedures.
7. To perform other duties imposed by the Law.

BALLOT BOX COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 21 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The ballot-box committees shall consist of a chairman and six principal and six alternate members. The board shall convene with the participation of its principal members.

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BALLOT BOX COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 22 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The chairman of the ballot-box committees shall discuss with principal members appointed to the county election board from outside of political parties and issue a list containing a name for each of the ballot-boxes in the election districts affiliated to the board, being well known, respected literal persons amongst voters within or outside of the election zone where the ballot-box shall be installed.
Each of principal members of the board elected from political parties shall issue a list as set forth above and submit the same to the chairman within a period of time to be specified by the chairman of the county election board. A party representative failing to submit a list within the specified period of time shall be deemed to be in waiver of that right.
Chairmen of ballot-box committees shall be determined by drawing names amongst nominees for chairman for each ballot-box in lists to be issued as set forth above.
Provided however that, individuals who can not be a member to parties under Political Parties Law 648 as well as village chief aldermen shall not be chairmen of ballot-box committees in their villages.
In the absence of the chairman of the ballot-box committees, the oldest member of the board shall preside.

MEMBERS OF THE BALLOT BOX COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 23 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Members of the ballot-box committees shall be designated as follows:
The chairman of the county election board shall ask five political parties having the highest votes in that county in the last general election for deputies, amongst political parties existing within that election district and having an organisation within the county, to nominate one principal member and an alternate member for each ballot-box within five days.

If the number of ballot-box committees members so designated is less than five, vacant memberships shall be filled with the same method from other political parties satisfying the same conditions, according to order of magnitude of votes they have obtained.
In case of equilibrium in votes names shall be drawn.
If, despite application of the aforementioned provisions it is not possible to designate all of the five principal and alternate members, names shall be drawn amongst political parties participating in elections in that county and having an organisation within the county. Persons to be notified by political parties equal in number to the number of vacancies whose names are drawn in the order of drawing shall be members to the ballot-box committees.
In addition, two persons are elected by drawing names, amongst principal and alternate members of aldermen committee and aldermen council of the village or community where the ballot-box is located. In the order of drawing names, the first two shall be principal members and the others alternate members. Provided however that, in villages or communities where aldermen committees and aldermen councils do not have members sufficient to cover the number of principal and alternate members of ballot-box committees to be commissioned hereunder, the vacancies shall be filled by applying the provisions set forth above to parties which have not provided members to ballot-box committees.
The absence of a ballot-box committees member designated as set forth above, shall be substituted by his alternate.
Drawing names for the chairman and members of the ballot-box committees shall be done by the chairman of the county election board before members of the county election board.
If vacancies can not be filled in this way, vacancies shall be filled by the chairman of the county election board with individuals living in the vicinity and not having any obstacles to be commissioned in the ballot-box committees.

ESTABLISHMENT AND TERM OF OFFICE OF BALLOT BOX COMMITTEES
ARTICLE 24 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The ballot-box committees shall be established at such date as shall be designated and declared by the Supreme Board of Elections.
Principal and alternate members of these boards shall take office at dates to be designated by the Supreme Board of Elections by considering local properties of each election district and continue to work until documents and certificates related to counting of votes are delivered to the county election board.

CANDIDATES AND OBSERVERS
ARTICLE 25 - Political parties and independent candidates may assign observers to supervise procedures performed at each ballot-box.

INDIVIDUALS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BOARD MEMBERSHIP
ARTICLE 26 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Administrative executives, municipal police chiefs and officers individuals specified in Article 3 of the Military Criminal Law, members of the Turkish Grand National Assembly as well as candidates shall not be entitled to be elected for boards set forth in this Law.
According to Political Parties Law no. 648, individuals not eligible for being a member of political parties shall not be commissioned by political parties as member, observer or representative in these boards.

OATH
ARTICLE 27 - The chairmen, principal and alternate members of the Supreme Board of Elections, provincial and county election boards shall take the following oath before the board before they take office:
(I swear on my conscious and all my sacred values that I will perform my duty to determine the results of the election completely and correctly under the related laws, without being influenced by and under no threat of any anybody or anything.)

CHAPTER THREE
PROCEDURES BEFORE ELECTIONS

PART ONE
VOTER REGISTERS

ESTABLISHMENT AND DEFINITIONS
ARTICLE 28 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979)

A) ESTABLISHMENT
A "Voter Registry General Directorate" has been established in Ankara and a "Voter Registers Office" in each county both affiliated to the Supreme Board of Elections.

B) DEFINITIONS
1. A computer medium defining each citizen eligible to vote hereunder and containing the domicile of that voter is called "Voter Register"
2. The Voter Register shall be created by designing, planning, management and performance of procedures by the Voter Registers General Directorate established by the Supreme Board of Elections in accordance with this Law.
3. Each of the records for and defining a voter, such as name, surname, year of birth and place of birth is called is called "data".
4. All data defining an individual voter are called collectively "Voter Data".
5. The names of the county, community and street as well as the number of the building and apartment, if any, where a voter resides permanently constitute "Voter Address".
6. Every voter shall be designated and defined by Voter Register item number, name, surname, mother's name, father's name, the county and the year in which he/she was born.
7. Modification, correction and completion of data contained in Voter Registers as specified in this Law shall be called "Updating" of Voter Registers.

OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES OF VOTER REGISTERS GENERAL DIRECTORATE
ARTICLE 29 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The objective of operation of the Voter Registers General Directorate is to provide gathering, classifying, storing, processing and rendering usable, communicating to where necessary and distribution of information to provide determination of all voting citizens completely in accordance with laws, prevent repeated registration, provide easy, rapid and correct voting of voters, obtain quick results of voting, prevent repeated voting by voters, enable voters to exercise their political rights at high level in accordance with their duties and responsibilities.
The Voter Registers General Directorate shall perform its activities under principles to be established by the Supreme Board of Elections in accordance with projects, programs, reporting methods and developed techniques. The General Director shall present to the Supreme Board of Elections weekly and monthly activity reports complying with the program approved by the Supreme Board of Elections.
The principles and method of auditing of the General Directorate shall be established and applied by the Supreme Board of Elections.
the importance, methods of regulation of Voter Registers, the duties of voters, the contributions and benefits of these activities on the lives of citizens and of the state, techniques used in such activities and information related thereto shall be publicised by the Supreme Board of Elections with continuous campaigns covering the entire country and all citizens.

ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF VOTER REGISTERS GENERAL DIRECTORATE AND VOTER REGISTERS OFFICES

ARTICLE 30 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Voter Registers General Directorate shall be managed by a general manager to be appointed by the Supreme Board of Elections on contract or continual basis and affiliated to the said Board; and voter registers offices in the central county and in other counties shall be managed by the chairman of the county election board to which they are affiliated, under principles established in this Law.
Terms related to organisation chart and units of the Voter Registers General Directorate and voter registers offices, relations between units, job definitions, powers and responsibilities, qualifications, hiring, promotion, transfer, disciplinary procedures of employees and other personnel rights thereof shall be regulated by a communiqué to be prepared by the General Directorate by considering Article 31 of this Law and related provisions of the Government Employees Law no. 657 subject to approval of the Supreme Board of Elections.
(Amended 3rd Paragraph 4448 on 26.8.1999) The General Director, Assistant General Director and branch managers of Voter Registers shall be appointed under a resolution of the Supreme Board of Elections and other employees of the Voter Registers shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections. Voter registers offices employees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections either upon proposition of the chairman of the county election board or ex officio. The employees of the General Directorate may be appointed to public organisations, whenever required, upon proposition of the authorised body as set forth above, by the managers of such organisations authorised to make such appointments, under the provisions of the Law no. 657.
(The fourth and fifth Paragraphs have been abolished by Article 2 of Law no. 4448 on 26.8.1999.)
Rating superiors of officers employed in voter registers offices shall be the chairman of the county election board they are affiliated to. The chairman of the county election board shall be authorised to directly implement any penalty of warning and condemnation imposed on the said officers.(*)
The chairman of the county election board may allow employment of voter registers officers in justice services in that district temporarily to the extent allowed by works.
(Annexed Paragraph 4448 on 26.8.1999) An election manager shall exist in election offices of counties.
(Annexed paragraph 4381 on 31.7.1998) Public Prosecutors and territorial governors shall be obliged to reserve sufficient space in Court Houses and City Halls for county voter registers offices and county election boards.

AUTHORITY TO COMMISSION PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY PERSONNEL
ARTICLE 31 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The Supreme Board of Elections may, pursuant to Government Servants Law no. 657, employ permanent, temporary or contracted personnel in Voter Registers General Directorate and permanent or temporary personnel in other electoral procedures.
(*) (....) the words "chief and" in (.....) have been abolished by Article 2 of Law no. 4448 on 26.8.1999.
Permanent, temporary contracted personnel of the General Directorate shall be appointed from among individuals not being a member of any political party and not being a candidate of any political party in any election previously.
For performance of election procedures and writing, editing, auditing and updating of Voter Registers, the chairmen of provincial and county election boards may commission chief aldermen, members of aldermen committees, members of aldermen council in communities and villages; all officers, employees and servants in government agencies, administrations with mixed budget, private administrations, municipalities, state economic enterprises and public entities (excluding judges, public prosecutors, provincial governors, district governors, township governors, military officers, executive and officers of municipal police), within principles to be established by the Supreme Board of Elections. Other individuals considered necessary may also be employed.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE SUPREME BOARD OF ELECTIONS BINDING

ARTICLE 32 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Resolutions passed by the Supreme Board of Elections for creation and updating of Voter Registers and submitting lists, diagrams and other materials obtained therefrom to where necessary shall be binding for all public organisations and officials.

The Supreme Board of Elections shall specify the duties and powers of individuals to be commissioned in writing and auditing, preparations for writing, the modes of writing and auditing and the information they shall contain, the mode of filling thereof, types of documents to be used in auditing and in interim procedures, the principles, methods and rules for delivery and auditing.

EDITING OF VOTER REGISTERS

ARTICLE 33 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Voter Registers shall be edited once every four years and updated by continuous fathering of data and general auditing once every two years.

The rules, methods and techniques of editing, continuous updating and general auditing as well as data processing procedures of Voter Registers General Directorate shall be designated by a communiqué to be issued by the Supreme Board of Elections.

Voter Registers shall be created and updated based on data gathered in writing and auditing, court decrees defining modifications in voter data such as modification in name, surname, age, sex, deprivation or reinstatement of voter capacity (restriction, prohibition from public services), data showing expelled or reinstated citizenship, as well as data on deceased citizens, change of domicile within or outside of the election district and other documents to be gathered in accordance with rules and methods to be established by the Supreme Board of Elections.

PRINCIPLES FOR REGISTRATION IN THE VOTER REGISTERS

ARTICLE 34 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Basis for having voter capacity shall be the Voter Registers.

It is essential that Voter Registers contain the name, surname, father's name, year of birth, county of birth, domicile address of the voter.

(Amended paragraph 3, 4125 - 27.10.1995) In the implementation of this Law, every individual shall be treated according to the month and day of birth recorded in the birth registers. However, the completion of eighteen years of age shall be calculated on the basis of the date of election (inclusive) if election is made in that year.

If voter data is incomplete, the concerned voter shall not be registered in voter registers until the data is completed.

The rules of completion shall be established and published by the Supreme Board of Elections.

Ballot-box voter lists covering data of voters residing in the ballot-box zone shall be obtained from Voter Registers.

A voter not contained in the ballot-box voter list shall not be entitled to cast votes.

Voters shall be registered in Voter Registers once and not be entitled to cast more than one vote.

Registering of voters shall be made by visiting the voters in their domiciles by commissioned officials.

Registry officers shall registers only the voters present in their place during registration. The domicile address declared by the voter shall be written down. Registry form bearing a serial number shall be signed by voters.

REGISTRATION OF CITIZENS RESIDING IN OTHER COUNTRIES

ARTICLE 35 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Citizens residing in other countries during registration of voters shall be registered in Voter Registers by Voter Registers General Directorate according to rules established by the Supreme Board of Elections.

a) Individuals residing outside of Turkey for more than six months shall fill out the forms they shall provide from places to be indicated by Voter Registers General Directorate.
b) They shall sign the form in the presence of the consul of the place where they are affiliated to or any official to be designated by the consul. The form shall be sealed by the consulate.
c) The first copy of the form shall be sent by the consulate to the Supreme Board of Elections Voter Registers General Directorate.
d) The second copy of the form shall be retained by the consulate according to item number.
e) The third copy of the form shall be returned to the citizen.
f) Last domiciles in Turkey, of citizens residing in other countries shall be written on the form. This statement shall be taken into consideration in the ballot-box voter list.
g) Voter Registers General Directorate shall register the voter specified in the forms submitted to it in Voter Registers.

GENERAL REGISTRATION AND SUPERVISION

ARTICLE 36 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) In order to gather the required information, registration shall be made on the second Sunday of April simultaneously throughout Turkey, for editing Voter Registers once every four years and auditing of the Registers once every two years. Supreme Board of Elections shall, during editing and issuing the registers, apply other methods, techniques and rules it shall specify in communiqués in accordance with the requirements of this Law.

On the date of registration, no one except the registrars shall be allowed to leave his/her location from 05:00 until it is announced through usual ways of public announcement that voter registration is completed.

However, registration and supervision procedures must be completed in any way until 19:00 hours on the same day.

County executives of political parties to be announced by the Supreme Board of Elections pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 14 of this Law may assign representatives to supervise the registrars.

The names of representatives shall be given in a list within the period of time specified upon request of the county election board. The representatives of political parties whose names are notified shall perform their representation duty with a certificate they shall obtain from the county election board. The names in the list and their places of duty shall not be changed subsequently.

(Annexed paragraph: KHK/572 - 30.5.1997) Any disability of a voter to prevent the voter from casting his/her vote shall be noted on the form during registration of voters.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION TAKEN AS BASIS FOR REGISTRATION

ARTICLE 37 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Official documents shall be taken as basis in determination of information to be written on forms during editing of Voter Registers.

Sketches and schedules issued according to Article 38 shall be utilised during editing.

The records of chief aldermen and building managers shall be utilised in determining permanent domicile of voters.

COMMUNITY SKETCH AND LIST OF BUILDINGS

ARTICLE 38 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Municipalities in cities and towns shall issue a "Community Sketch" for each community, once every two years under the supervision of the chairman of the county election board.

A) The sketch shall show

1. the boundaries of the community and the names of streets within these boundaries and the number of buildings at the beginning and end of each street.
2. If the community consists of scattered buildings not organised in orderly streets, the scattered buildings shall be shown legibly together with their numbers.

B) A list of buildings shall be issued to substitute a sketch in villages and in cities and towns which do not allow issuance of a sketch.
The list of buildings shall be made by municipalities in cities and towns under the supervision of the chairman of the county election board and by chief aldermen in villages.
C) If there are places within a community where people reside but lacking a number, such places shall be numbered.

The List of Buildings in subparagraph B above and the procedure of numbering unnumbered places as given in subparagraph C shall be made according to principles of Numbering Regulation of the General Directorate of Statistics.
The community sketch and the list of buildings shall be issued to indicate the situation at year end.
A certified copy of each of the community sketch or building list issued pursuant to the paragraph above, shall be given by the chairman of the county election board once every two years to county organisations of political parties announced according to paragraph 4 of Article 14, against a document evidencing receipt, in a month to be designated by the Supreme Board of Elections.

COMMUNITY PUBLICLY DISPLAYED VOTERS LISTS

ARTICLE 39 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) A list issued in alphabetical order of surnames of voters residing within the same community according to addresses written in Voter Registers and containing voter data including Vote Registers number, name and surname, mother and father name, year of birth, place of birth and address of voters registered in the Voter Registers for correcting the errors and completing deficiencies in Voter Registers is called "Community Publicly Displayed Voters Lists".
Community Publicly Displayed Voters Lists shall be extracted from Voter Registers based on existing final data at the end of each year.
Community Publicly Displayed Voters List shall be sent, in March of every year,
1. a) in two copies to the community to which it belongs,
b) in one copy to the county organisations of political parties announced pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 14,
c) in two copies to county election boards for use in the procedures of the county election boards,
2. in one copy to provincial election boards for use in related procedures.

TIME AND DURATION OF DISPLAY

ARTICLE 40 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Community Publicly Displayed Voters List shall be exhibited on first Monday of April every year and exhibited for a period of two weeks.
Community Publicly Displayed Voters Lists shall be posted in communities or villages where they belong, at such place as shall be simply seen and read by the inhabitants of the community or the village. The dates and places of publicly display of the said lists shall, together with a schedule showing the ballot-box zones into which the election districts are divided, be announced through local newspapers and also through usual ways and means of communication.
The manner of announcement of the dates and places of display of the said lists shall be determined by minutes to be issued by persons commissioned by the chairman of the county election board. The date of termination of publicly display shall be determined by a separate minute. These minutes shall be retained by the chairman of the county election board in a separate file.
The chairman of the county election board shall immediately notify to the territorial governor in writing, the date and place of publicly display of the said lists.
Administrative executives and the managers and officers of the police organisation shall be responsible for protection of the Community Publicly Displayed Voters Lists.

The chairman of the county election board shall, during the period of publicly display of the lists and by considering the number of voters in the community, take all measures to facilitate voters search their names in the lists. The chairman of the county election board shall provide that the chief alderman or one of the members of the aldermen committee or any person commissioned for this purpose attends at the place of publicly display during certain hours considered appropriate for applications and shall announce the case at the place of publicly display.

DUPLICATION

ARTICLE 41 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Two separate information specifying the same name and surname, mother and father name, place and year of birth in Voter Register shall define one and the same voter.

In this case, Supreme Board of Elections Voter Registers General Directorate shall keep the voter data with higher item number in the Voter Register and transfers the other to the duplicate data list.

The duplicate data shall be stored in the Duplicate Data List for a period of two years.

If, in the voter data given in the Exhibited List;

a) the name and surname is the same but one or more of the other data including father name, mother name, year of birth, county of birth is different,
b) One or more of the letters in the name and surname and one of the data specified in paragraph (a) is different,
c) the name and surname is the same, and an extra name exists in the duplicate data, the data specified in paragraph (a) are the same or one of the data is different,
d) the address is different and one or two of the data specified in paragraph (a) is different,
e) or other situations to be determined by the Supreme Board of Elections

the chairman of the county election board shall, upon objection or ex officio, decide whether the data defines one or more voters. The decision shall be notified to the Supreme Board of Elections Voter Registers General Directorate for processing.

BALLOT-BOX PUBLICLY DISPLAYED LIST

ARTICLE 42 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Ballot-box zone publicly displayed voters list shall be extracted from the register following inclusion into the Voter Registers, the resolutions which shall be recorded in Voter Registers pursuant to Article 12 hereof.

The ballot-box zone publicly displayed voters lists shall contain the data in ballot-box voter lists specified in Article 43 in the same order.

This list shall be sent to chairmen of provincial and county election boards. The chairmen of county election boards deliver a copy of the said list to district executives of political parties announced pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 14 hereof.

BALLOT BOX VOTER LIST

ARTICLE 43 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) A list issued in alphabetical order of surnames of voters residing within the same ballot-box zone according to addresses written in Voter Registers and containing voter data including Vote Registers number, name and surname, mother and father name, year of birth, place of birth and address of voters registered in the Voter Registers for correcting the errors and completing deficiencies in Voter Registers is called the "Ballot-box Voter List". The names of the province, county and community which the list pertains to, as well as the ballot-box number and the period of validity shall be noted on each page of the ballot-box voter list. The copies to be given to the ballot-box committee shall also contain columns necessary for procedures to be performed at the ballot box.

Ballot-box voter lists shall be issued based on data finalised in Voter Registers 120 days in advance of the election day.

30 days in advance of the day of voting, the ballot-box voter list shall be sent to related election boards for delivery,

1. a) in two copies to chairmen of ballot-box committees for each ballot-box,

b) in one copy to county chair persons of political parties participating in the election, 20 days in advance of the day of voting,
c) in one copy to the related community alderman's office, 20 days in advance of the day of voting,

2. in two copies to related county election boards for use in County Election Board procedures,
3. in one copy to related provincial election boards for use in respective procedures.

Ballot-box voter lists in chief alderman's offices may be examined by voters at any time.

Chief aldermen shall, within working hours between the date falling on the 10th day prior to elections and until 17:00 hours on the day of voting, be obliged to answer the questions of voters regarding ballot-box numbers, locations of ballot-boxes and voting, distribute the publications of election boards, post up and distribute banners, signs and similar materials to be prepared by election boards to enable voters cast their votes easily and correctly and assist any official commissioned by election boards with that respect.

VOTER INFORMATION PAPERS

ARTICLE 44 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) A voter information paper shall be issued for each voter registered in the Voter Registers to inform voters on the election zone and the number of ballot-box where the voter shall cast his/he vote, voter item number and other information and these voter information papers shall be sent or distributed according to principles to be set forth by the Supreme Board of Elections depending on the nature of election districts. Voter information papers shall never be used as an evidence of identity and this shall strictly be stated on voter information papers.

VOTER REGISTERS PROVINCIAL AND COUNTY LISTS

ARTICLE 45 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Information on voters registered in Voter Registers shall be sent in one copy to each of provincial and county election boards in the form of lists classified according to provinces and counties where voters reside.

The lists pertaining to last two years shall be made available for inspection of board members.

The rules and methods of issuing and storing the said lists shall be established by the Supreme Board of Elections.

The Supreme Board of Elections Voter Registers General Directorate shall designate the rules and times for issuance and examination of lists issued on the basis of surnames of voters in alphabetical order and Voter Register item number at country, province and county level.

DISCUSSION OF ACTIVITIES

ARTICLE 46 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The report of the Voter Registers General Directorate providing information on the program, design, results obtained, communiqués issued and all applications shall be discussed in a meeting attended by a representative of each of the political parties announced pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 14, the members of the Supreme Board of Elections, Voter Registers General Director and three employees considered necessary presided by the Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections.

The date of meeting, to be held quarterly, shall be determined by the Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections. The meeting shall be opened by appearance of participants at the date and time specified. These meetings shall aim to inform the participants on activities and not to pass resolutions.

The meeting shall be closed to anyone other then those specified above. The abstract of the discussions shall be sent by the Supreme Board of Elections to participants within the following.

The rules of convention and discussion shall be established by the Supreme Board of Elections and notified to participants.

KEEPING AND DELIVERING THE VOTER REGISTERS TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN (*)
ARTICLE 47 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The Supreme Board of Elections Voter Registers General Directorate shall deliver to the Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections the Voter Registers and a copy of the list obtained from the Voter Registers as of the end of each year.
Copies of Voter Registers shall be retained by the Voter Registers General Directorate.
The rules for keeping and examining the Voter Registers delivered to the Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections shall be established and published by the Supreme Board of Elections.
(Annexed Paragraph: 4609 - 29.11.2000) If voter registers are requested by the head offices of political parties eligible to participate in the election or by authorised heads of provincial or county organisations, the same shall be delivered to the party requesting it in computer medium or in the form of a list, against a signature of acknowledgement provided that such request shall not take place for more than twice within an election period and the expenses determined by the Supreme Board of Elections deposited in the related fiscal authority and the receipt is presented. The method and rules of utilising the information in the Voter Registers General Directorate by other government agencies shall be established by the law.

DISTRIBUTION OF VOTER CARDS
ARTICLE 48 - (Abolished by Article 5 of Law no. 2234 dated May 17th 1979.)

PART TWO
ELECTIONEERING ACTIVITIES

FREEDOM AND PERIOD OF ELECTIONEERING ACTIVITIES
ARTICLE 49 - (Amended by Law No. 356 on 25.8.1961) Electioneering activities shall be free under the provisions of this Law.
(Amended Paragraph: 3403 - 10.9.1987) Electioneering activities shall commence on the morning of the tenth day in advance of the election day and terminate at 18:00 hours on the day before the date of election.

ELECTIONEERING ACTIVITIES IN PUBLIC PLACES
ARTICLE 50 - Collective verbal electioneering is forbidden, during the period of election, on public ways, in temples, in public service buildings and facilities, and in arenas and squares other than those specified by county election boards.
County election boards shall determine the squares where collective verbal electioneering can be made by selecting places where meetings are held without interfering with the traffic and preventing operation of market places and preferentially the places having electrical installation.
Upon application of political parties for collective verbal electioneering, the county election board shall determine the square, date, order and time of the meeting by drawing names and notify it to whom it may concern. A day of the week shall be reserved for independent candidates under identical conditions.
It is forbidden to make collective verbal electioneering in public places from sunset until sunrise.
(*) The heading of the Article was amended as above by Article 1 of Law no. 4609 on 29.11.2000.

INDOOR ELECTIONEERING ACTIVITIES
ARTICLE 51 - Meetings may be held in closed spaces in the name of political parties or independent parties participating in elections.
Parties or individuals wishing to organise a meeting in closed spaces shall establish a committee consisting of three members and inform nearest police executive or officer of its intention. In villages, informing the alderman or his deputy shall be satisfactory.

The committee shall be obliged to maintain the order of the meeting and to prevent any act contrary to laws, customs and traditions and any behaviour soliciting any offence or criminal act.
In case of occurrence any event mentioned above, the Committee shall take all steps to prevent it and call the police if necessary.
The committee may determine or limit persons to deliver a speech in the meeting.
Speeches delivered in such meetings may be broadcast through loud speakers, provided that the provisions of Article 56 are reserved.
Meetings in closed spaces shall never be intervened by the executives or officers of any security force or the alderman or aldermen council unless requested by the committee managing the meeting or decided by authorised election boards.
Indoor meetings shall be prohibited in temples, schools, military barracks, military headquarters, military units, buildings and facilities as well as in other places where public services are rendered.

ELECTIONEERING ACTIVITIES THROUGH RADIO AND TELEVISION
ARTICLE 52 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) (Amended Paragraph One: 2839 - 10.6.1983) Political parties which take part in the election may conduct electioneering activities on radio and television after the 7th day in advance of the election day until 18:00 hours on the day before the election day, provided that the provisions in private laws are reserved.
(Amended Paragraph 2: 3377 - 23.5.1987) Political parties shall be given the following electioneering rights: a) two speeches not more than 10 minutes on the first 10 days and the last day to explain their programs and projects,
b) an additional 10 minute for political parties having a group in the Grand National Assembly,
c) (Amended: 4125 - 27.10.1995) an additional electioneering time of 20 minutes for the party having the political power or the larger one of the parties sharing the power and additional 15 minutes for other parties holding the power,
d) (abolished under the Decree of the Constitutional Court No. E.1987/3, K.1987/13 dated 22.5.1987.)
Political parties may also conduct visualised electioneering activities provided that the time used for such activities does not exceed half of electioneering times. Visualised electioneering shall be prepared by producers other than TRT (Turkish Radio & Television Institution). Visualised electioneering is for explaining the activities which have been and will be performed by political parties. Such electioneering shall not include any image to constitute an offence. Such electioneering of political parties shall not be less than two minutes at a time nor shall its total time within a day be more than ten minutes. Political parties may exercise their visualised electioneering rights in more than one channel of TRT. The Supreme Board of Elections shall determine the period of time in which the images shall be delivered to TRT and the times of broadcast of such electioneering by TRT depending on the availability of TRT. If such images contain a matter constituting an offence, the Supreme Board of Elections shall not allow the images be broadcast.
Political parties shall, in their first speeches through the radio and television make their election declarations.
Speeches shall be broadcast simultaneously through all radio and television stations in Turkey.
The day and time of electioneering speeches through radio and television and the parties to deliver speech shall be announced in advance through news programs by Turkish Radio and Television.
(Amended Paragraph 6: 2839 - 10.6.1983) The Supreme Board of Elections and Turkish Radio and Television shall provide that electioneering through radio and television shall be made equitably and impartially.
(Amended Paragraph 7: 3270 - 28.3.1986) In speeches to be delivered through television on behalf of political parties participating in the election (except as stated in subparagraph (d) of

Article 2) as set forth above, no image shall be broadcast except the Turkish flag, the emblem of the political party posted in such size as shall be determined by the Supreme Board of Elections and the spokesman who shall be obliged to wear a jacket and necktie if male, or a tailleur if female.(*)
(Last paragraph amended: 3377 - 23.5.1967) (abolished by Article 2 of Law no. 3403 on September 10th 1987.)
(Annexed paragraph: 4125 - 27.10.1995) Propaganda speeches of political parties in private radios and televisions shall be made according to principles and procedures applied in TRT. The broadcasts shall be regulated and audited by the Supreme Board of Elections for radios and televisions at national level and by Provincial Election Boards for local radios and televisions. No electioneering speeches shall be broadcast in any other way contradicting with the conditions specified above. Any party acting in contrary shall be subject to provisions of Article 151/2 the Law for Basic Provisions on Elections and Voter Registers No. 298.

APPLICATION
ARTICLE 53 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The head offices of political parties participating in the election shall notify the Supreme Board of Elections until the evening of the twenty-first day in advance of the election day in writing, of their intention to make electioneering on radio and television.

DETERMINATION OF BROADCAST TIME
ARTICLE 54 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The Supreme Board of Elections shall determine the time and order of broadcast amongst parties applying for radio and television broadcast, by drawing names before a representative of each of the said parties and the representatives of Turkish Radio Television. The drawing of names shall be performed at least twenty days in advance of the election day. The hour at which the radio and television broadcast shall begin shall be decided by the Supreme Board of Elections by considering the number of the parties and the best possibilities of listening. Radio and television broadcasts shall continue not later than until 22.00 hrs.

RECORDING OF RADIO AND TELEVISION SPEECHES
ARTICLE 55 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Speeches to be delivered on radio and television on behalf of political parties shall be recorded by a sound and image recording equipment before a board member to be commissioned by the Supreme Board of Elections either before or during the broadcast as wished by the political party on behalf of which the speech shall be delivered. The commissioned board member and at least two officers of Turkish Radio Television shall issue minutes showing in the name of which party and by whom the speech was delivered. The band and other equipment of recording hall be retained by the Supreme Board of Elections.
These shall be presented as evidence if the speeches constitute a dispute or if requested by officials. Penalties imposed by the law on persons delivering speeches which constitute an offence shall be applied by increasing the penalties one or two fold.

BROADCASTING THROUGH PRIVATE RADIOS AND TELEVISIONS
ARTICLE 55 - (Annexed: 3959 - 28.12.1993) Broadcasts made by private radios and televisions from the date of beginning of elections until the date of voting shall be subject to Articles 5, 20, 22 and 23 of Turkish Radio and Television Law No. 2954 and of Paragraph 2 of Article 31 of the same Law.
The Supreme Board of Elections shall be responsible for and authorised to define the principles of broadcasting by private radios and televisions according to the provisions of the preceding paragraph.
The Supreme Board of Elections shall be responsible for and authorised in supervising, auditing and evaluating the conformity of broadcasts to principles set forth above by private radios and televisions broadcasting throughout Turkey and the county election boards of the location where broadcasting is made, for private radios and televisions operating locally.

Objections may be lodged to provincial election boards within 24 hours against decisions of county election boards. The decision of the provincial election board shall be final.
The Supreme Board of Elections shall be authorised to describe the private radios and televisions broadcasting throughout Turkey. The resolution of the Supreme Board of Elections with that respect shall be published in the Official Gazette. (**)
(*) The statement given in (...) the first paragraph of Paragraph 7 of Article 52 was abolished by the decree no. E.1987/3, K.1987/13 of the Constitutional Court on 22.5.1987.)
(**) Applicable only for the next general local election pursuant to Temporary Article 1 of Law no. 3959 dated December 28th 1993.

ELECTIONEERING THROUGH LOUD SPEAKERS
ARTICLE 56 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Propaganda through loud speakers shall be allowed provided that public piece and comfort is not disturbed and the provisions of the last paragraph of Article 50 is adhered to. Provided however that, electioneering through loud speakers shall not be allowed concomitantly with an outdoor or indoor electioneering meeting of another party or independent candidate in such manner as heard in and disturbing the area or building where the indoor or outdoor meeting is held.
County election boards shall be authorised to determine the place, time and other conditions of electioneering through loud speakers either on its own initiative or upon request of political parties, by considering the properties of the location.
Political parties may, if they wish, utilise municipal public announcement system against charge, according to a program to be established by the county election board.

HANDOUTS
ARTICLE 57 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Political parties, independent candidates participating in elections shall be free to hand out brochures and all kinds of printed matter. However, it is forbidden to distribute, glue, post up or sell handouts, declarations, communiqués, open letters and all kinds of printed matter which has the nature of electioneering after 18:00 hours on the day before the election day. Voting papers may be distributed any time.

RESTRICTIONS RELATED TO ELECTIONEERING PUBLICATIONS
ARTICLE 58 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) It is strictly forbidden to print Turkish flag and religious statements on handouts and all kinds of printed matter used for electioneering purposes. It is strictly forbidden to use any language other than Turkish in electioneering broadcasts on radio and television, and in other electioneering.

EXEMPTION
ARTICLE 59 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Printed matter in the form of handouts used for electioneering purposes shall be exempted from all kinds of duties and charges from commencement of election until expiration of electioneering period.

PROHIBITION ON ELECTIONEERING BY WALL BULLETINS AND POSTERS
ARTICLE 60 - (Amended by Law No. 3959 on 28.12.1993) Posters, bulletins as well as party flags of all sizes, electioneering flags and similar materials used for electioneering purposes shall be posted up at places shown by county election boards in cities, towns and sub-districts.
This shall not apply to posters, flags, emblems and similar materials used in party headquarters, provincial, county, town buildings, indoors, party vehicles, private vehicles of candidates, convoys, meetings, meeting areas, covered sports facilities on meeting days.
The order of such places shall be determined by county election boards in cities and towns, according to the standing on the integrated voting papers for political parties and by drawing names for independent candidates.
Drawing names for independent candidates shall be made before the applying candidates or representatives thereof, until the end of the twentieth day in advance of the election day.

None of the political parties or independent candidates can post bulletins, flags or emblems before the date specified in paragraph 4.

PROHIBITION OF POSTING ON OTHER PLACES, PUBLIC POLLS AND DISTRIBUTION OF GIFTS (*)

ARTICLE 61 - (3959 - 28.12.1993) It is forbidden to post up, attach or exhibit party emblems, posters, electioneering flags and bulletins at any place other than allowed under the preceding Article.

Party emblems, posters, electioneering flags and bulletins posted, attached or exhibited at places other than those allowed shall be removed under a respective resolution of the county election board and expenses incurred for such removal shall be paid by political parties or independent candidates to whom the emblems, posters, electioneering flags and bulletins belong.(**)

(Annexed paragraph: 4125 - 27.10.1995)

It is forbidden, in general elections for deputies, to make statements, after the date of beginning of election, in favour of or against a political party or candidate or in a manner to influence the votes of citizens in any way howsoever, through written, verbal, visual press and media as well as various means of publication or to make public polls, questionnaires, estimations, through information and communication telephones, under any name, including mini referendum; and the parties are forbidden from distributing gifts and give-aways other than promotional brochures and handouts, or have the same distributed through third parties or organisations. The provisions of other laws in contrary to this paragraph shall not apply.

(*) The heading of the Article was amended as above by Article 5 of Law no. 4125 on October 27th 1995.

(**) Article 61 was abolished by Article 5 of Law no. 2234 on May 17th 1979 and was reorganised by Article 4 of Law no. 3959 on December 28th 1993.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATERIALS

ARTICLE 62 - Persons to distribute printed materials in the form of handouts must be eligible to vote.

Persons employed as officer or servant in government agencies, administrations with mixed budget, provincial private administrations, municipalities and all offices and establishments affiliated thereto, state economic enterprises and establishments and partnerships as well as in other public organisations thereof shall not be entitled to distribute handouts.

ACTS FORBIDDEN DURING THE PERIOD OF ELECTION

ARTICLE 63 - Officers mentioned in Article 62 and associations operating for public benefit as well as officers and employees employed therein shall be obliged to be impartial during elections.

Provided that the prohibitive provisions of Law no. 5830 are reserved, the persons specified above shall, during elections, not be entitled to:

a) provide grants, donations and assistance to political parties or independent candidates under any name whatsoever;
b) have their officers and servants as well as all of their equipment, supplies and facilities used for the benefit and under the order of a political party or an independent candidate or have the same operated in any political activity.

Persons specified in the first paragraph and organisations subject to Banks Law shall be prohibited from making any publication in favour of or against a political party or an independent candidate or in a manner to influence the votes of citizens.

Also all books, brochures, posters and similar publications printed and published before and having the nature as set forth above shall be subject to these provisions.

RESTRICTIONS ON CEREMONIES

ARTICLE 64 - (Amended by Law No. 3330 on 19.2.1987) During the period elapsing between the date of beginning of electioneering until the day following the election day, it is forbidden to organise ceremonies, deliver speeches, make declarations related to works and services performed from resources of all offices, agencies, organisations and establishments specified in Article 62 as well as institutions subject to Banks Law (including opening and foundation laying ceremonies) and make publications through any and all means with respect to said works and services.
(Prohibitions specified in this paragraph shall be limited with the election district for interim elections)(*)

RESTRICTIONS ON THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTERS
ARTICLE 65 - (Amended Paragraph 1: 3330 - 19.2.1987) During the period elapsing between the date of beginning of electioneering until the day following the election day, the Prime Minister, Ministers and Deputies shall not be entitled to make electioneering tours throughout Turkey with their official vehicles or with vehicles assigned to public service. In their travels for electioneering purposes, ceremonies for welcoming or seeing off the Prime Minister, Ministers and Deputies or other ceremonies shall not be performed and no official banquette shall be given.
During the period specified above, the Prime Minister and Ministers shall be bound by the provisions hereof in their activities and speeches related to elections.

OFFICERS PROHIBITED FROM PARTICIPATING IN TOURS
ARTICLE 66 - (Amended by Law No. 3330 on 19.2.1987) During the period elapsing between the date of beginning of electioneering until the day following the election day, no government officers shall be entitled to be made by the Prime Minister, Ministers and candidates for electioneering purposes.

PART THREE
TOOLS

PROVISION OF TOOLS
ARTICLE 67 - Chairmen of election boards shall be obliged to provide regularly all tools and money necessary for the election and send the same to where required.
Upon orders of the chairmen of boards, police and security forces, municipalities and community aldermen shall be obliged to provide necessary assistance with that respect.

VOTING TOOLS AND DELIVERY THEREOF
ARTICLE 68 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The Supreme Board of Elections shall timely send to provincial and county election boards, the seals of provincial, county and ballot-box committees, voter marker paints and stamping pads as well as all kinds of stationary and supplies which can not be provided locally and specify which materials shall be delivered to chairmen of the said boards for that election.
The chairman of provincial election board shall, at least ten days in advance of the election day provide to county election boards and the chairman of county election boards shall, at least 48 hours in advance of the election day, provide to ballot-box committees of materials necessary for that election, out of those listed below.
(*) The last sentence of Article 64 in (....) was abolished and nullified by Decree no. E.1987/6, K.1987/14 of the Constitutional Court issued on 22.5.1987.

1. A numbered seal inserted in a sealed cloth bag for each ballot-box within the election district (Minutes shall be issued to show which numbered seal is delivered to which ballot box.)
2. An approved list of candidates equal in quantity to the total number of closed voting booths to be provided in each election district and the sign specified in Article 76,
3. A pack sealed by the seal of the county election board and containing envelopes in which ballot papers shall be inserted,

4. Ballot boxes,
5. Stamping pads and ink equal to the number of ballot-boxes,
6. Certified minutes book conforming to the sample, equal in quantity to the number of ballot-boxes,
7. Printed vote count schedules conforming to the sample.
8. Printed minutes papers conforming to the sample,
9. Empty bags equal in quantity to the number of ballot-boxes,
10. Copy pencils in sufficient quantity,
11. Materials for building a voting place, if necessary,
12. Within that election district, a sufficient number of white blank papers and other necessary supplies, depending on the nature of the election,
13. Two copies of ballot-box voter list with each page sealed by the county election board and bearing a certification statement on last page,
14. Ballot papers delivered to the chairman of the county election board to be placed by the parties in voting booths,
15. Ballot papers for each independent candidate, bearing the name and surname only of that independent candidate, delivered to the chairman of the county election board,
16. Package containing integrated ballot papers, as sealed and numbered by county election board,
17. "Yes" seal for each ballot-box,
18. Special marking ink and stamping pad to mark voters who cast their votes.

MINUTES BOOK

ARTICLE 69 - Each board shall have a minutes book. Provincial election boards shall certify their own books, county election boards shall certify their books and the books of ballot-box committees by numbering and stamping the pages thereof.
Procedures and decisions of the boards shall be written down in these books and signed by board members.

CHAPTER FOUR
PROCEDURES TO BE PERFORMED ON THE VOTING DAY

PART ONE
PROCEDURES TO BE PERFOMED IN BALLOT BOX ZONES

OATH

ARTICLE 70 - The chairmen and members of the ballot-box committee shall take the following oath before the committee and other attendants, before they initiate procedures:
(I swear on my conscious and all my sacred values that I will perform my duty to determine the results of the election completely and correctly under the related laws, without being influenced by and under no threat of any anybody or anything.)

DUTIES AND POWERS

ARTICLE 71 - Main duties and powers of ballot-box committees are the following:
1. To take necessary measures within the ballot-box zone for smooth performance of voting procedures, conduct and audit voting procedures,
2. To determine the location of the ballot-box within the ballot-box zone and put up signs at street corners prominently or announce the location through usual ways,
3. To examine and decide on objections to voting procedures and register and undersign the decisions in the minutes book,
4. To send to the county election board immediately any contested decision,
5. To count ballot papers inserted in the box under principles set forth herein, to issue lists thereof and send the same immediately to county election board together with other documents related to election procedures,
6. To perform other duties imposed by the law.

OBSERVERS

ARTICLE 72 - The observers and candidates of political parties as well as independent candidates and their observers may attend to observe ballot-box procedures. If the number of observers of independent candidates is more than three, the chairman of the ballot-box committee shall draw a name amongst the said observers. The first three observers drawn shall be left by the ballot-box The other observers may remain in the ballot-box area.

PROVIDING MAJORITY IN THE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 73 - If one or more of political party members fail to perform their duties, before voting begins or during voting, the member(s) shall be substituted by an alternate member of the concerned political party or parties, provided that penal provisions are reserved. If this is not possible and the number of committee members is reduced to less than three, this fact shall be registered and the missing members shall be appointed by the chairman amongst literate persons eligible for voting in that ballot-box zone.

THE LOCATION OF BALLOT-BOXES

ARTICLE 74 - (Amended by Law No. 4381 on - 31.7.1998) The ballot-box committee The ballot-box committee shall determine the locations of ballot-boxes and the measures to be taken to complete voting on time under the supervision of county election boards. It is considered, in determining the locations of ballot-boxes, that voters cast their votes simply, freely and confidentially. Measures shall be taken to provide disabled voters to cast their votes easily. Ballot boxes shall be placed in public places such as appropriate parts of school yards (including private schools and private courses) and rooms, and, if not sufficient, to other places to be hired for that purpose, such as cafes, restaurants, etc. Ballot-boxes shall not be placed in military barracks, headquarters and other military buildings and facilities as well as in police stations, party buildings, community chief alderman offices. The principles applicable for duties of building executives in buildings where more than three ballot-boxes are placed shall be designated by the Supreme Board of Elections.

VOTING BOOTHS

ARTICLE 75 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Ballot-box committee shall prepare a sufficient number of voting booths to provide freedom and confidentiality of voting.
Voters shall be required to fold the ballot paper, stick the glued edge or, in elections where envelopes are used, insert the paper in an envelope without assistance of any other person.

PROPERTIES OF VOTING BOOTH

ARTICLE 76 - Voting booths shall have a form not enabling other people to see inside and allowing voters to examine and fold the ballot paper freely.
Candidate lists and the printed wording of this law related to voting freedom and confidentiality shall be posted up as a sign in voting booths.
A table or a similar object shall be provided in voting booths.

SEALING OF BALLOT BOXES, COMBINED BALLOT PAPERS AND ENVELOPES

ARTICLE 77 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The chairman of the ballot-box committee shall, prior to initiating voting procedures, check whether the ballot-box is empty in the presence of ballot-box committee members and observers, close the ballot-box and seal the box so that the box can not be opened without breaking the seal.
In elections where integrated ballot papers are used (integrated ballot papers formed into an envelope by folding and sealing the glued edge) shall be regarded an envelope where the term 'envelope' is used in the wording of this Law.
Provided however that, provisions related to double sealing of envelopes shall not apply for integrated ballot papers.
The ballot-box committee shall, following completion of procedures including taking oath, placement of ballot-boxes, organising voting booths, count integrated ballot papers in the

presence of attendants, stamp the seal of the ballot-box committee on each of the papers and consequently determine the number of integrated ballot papers bearing the seal of the ballot-box committee. In elections where combined ballot papers are not used, the chairman of the ballot-box committee shall count the special envelopes received from the chairman of the county election board and bearing the seal of the county election board and stamp the seal of the ballot-box committee on each envelope and consequently, determine the number of special envelopes bearing two stamps, one being the stamp of the county election board and the other being the seal of the ballot-box committee.
The ballot-box committee shall write down these procedures performed hereunder in and sign the minutes book.

COMBINED BALLOT PAPER

ARTICLE 78 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Special signs to be used by independent candidates on the combined ballot papers shall be notified to the Supreme Board of Elections not later than fifteen days in advance of the date of initiation of elections.
Special signs not notified within the specified period or contrary to basic principles of the Constitution shall not be used.
If special signs resemble each other, the first one notified shall be accepted and the other rejected.
The independent candidates shall be notified of the rejection within two days. If the concerned independent candidates fail to provide a new sign within three days, or the new sign provided still resembles a sign presented before or the special signs of political parties participating in the election, then the independent candidate in question shall not be able to use the said sign.
Special signs and similar identifications of a political party accepted by the said party pursuant to provisions of Law no. 2596, shall not be used by other political parties and independent candidates.
The foregoing provisions related to special signs to be used by independent candidates shall apply for special signs of political parties.
(Paragraph 6 was abolished by Article 10 of Law no. 3959 dated December 28th 1993.)

PART TWO
PROHIBITIONS AND ORDER IN BALLOT BOX AREA

PROHIBITION ON ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND CARRYING ARMS

ARTICLE 79 - Sale of alcoholic drinks, sale, delivery or drinking of all kinds of alcoholic drinks in restaurants, cafes, etc., or in public places on the election day shall strictly be forbidden.
On the day of voting, all public entertainment places shall remain closed during the time of voting. In restaurants only meals shall be served.
On the day of voting, no one except officers responsible for maintaining security and public order shall carry arm in villages, towns and cities.
The term arms in this Law Arm means the tools specified in Article 189 of the Turkish Criminal Law.

PROHIBITION ON BROADCASTS

ARTICLE 80 - Radios and all broadcasting organisations shall be prohibited from providing news or elections and from making estimations and commenting on the results of election until 18 hours on the day of voting.
Between 18:00 and 21:00 hours, only radios can broadcast news and declarations supplied by the Supreme Board of Elections.
All broadcasting shall be free after 21:00 hours.

BALLOT BOX AREA, LOCATION OF BALLOT BOXES AND PUBLIC ORDER

ARTICLE 81 - According to this Law, the ballot-box area is the environment, up to a distance of 100 meters, surrounding the location of the ballot-box, the voting booth and the ballot-box committee.
The chairman of the ballot-box committee shall be responsible for maintaining public order in the ballot-box area.

POWERS OF THE CHAIRMAN
ARTICLE 82 - The chairman shall warn any person preventing voters to cast their votes freely and confidentially or any person preventing the ballot-box committee to perform its operations or interfering with the smooth operation of voting procedure or attempting to disturb public order in the ballot-box area. Persons not obeying the warning may be removed away from the ballot-box area. If the interfering person is a member of the ballot-box committee, he/she may be expelled only upon a decision of the committee with that respect.
Security forces in the area shall be obliged to act as ordered by the chairman.

OFFENCES IN THE BALLOT BOX AREA
ARTICLE 83 - If any offence is committed in the ballot-box area, the ballot-box committee shall issue minutes with that respect and deliver the offender to security force.

SECURITY MEASURES IN BALLOT BOX AREA
ARTICLE 84 - No one except the committee members authorised by this Law and voters shall be within the ballot-box area.
Only the security force called by the chairman of the ballot-box committee, if necessary, shall be present in the ballot-box area. Security measures taken shall not prevent voter to perform voting procedures. Security force executives and officers other than those specified above as well as persons wearing official uniforms and persons carrying arms shall not be entitled to enter in a ballot-box area.
(Annexed Paragraph: 3959 - 28.12.1993) However, in case of places subject to extraordinary status, martial law, or mobilisation and in the event of war, the foregoing provisions shall not apply for security force executives and officers as well as members of the armed forces casting votes at the ballot-box zone where they are registered as voter.

SECURITY MEASURES IN AREAS OUTSIDE OF THE BALLOT BOX ZONE
ARTICLE 85 - Measures taken by officials authorised to issue orders to security forces as well as by executives and officers of security forces shall not be restricting or limiting in nature the voters to enter the ballot-box area freely.
The chairman of the ballot-box committee shall prevent all actions prohibiting or restricting access of voters to ballot-box area.

PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE FOR BALLOT BOXES INSTALLED IN PENALTY EXECUTION ESTABLISHMENTS AND DETENTION HOUSES
ARTICLE 85/A - (Annexed: 4125 - 27.10.1995) Principles applicable for ballot boxes to be installed in penalty execution establishments and detention houses shall be defined by the Supreme Board of Elections notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 81, 82, 83, 84 and 85 of this Law.

PART THREE
VOTING

VOTING POWER
ARTICLE 86 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Every voter registered in ballot-box voter list shall be entitled to cast vote. A voter shall not be entitled to cast more than one vote.
(Amended Paragraph 2: 3270 - 28.3.1986) Any person not registered in ballot-box voter list shall not be allowed to vote, excluding persons specified in Paragraph (II) of Article 94 of this

Law. Persons for which official authorities have issued a document evidencing that the person n question has lost its voter capacity until the date of voting shall not be allowed to vote even if such persons are registered in the Voter Register.

IDENTIFICATION

ARTICLE 87 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The identity of voters registered in ballot-box voter list shall be evidenced by birth registers or by official documents issued for identification purposes. The Supreme Board of Elections shall determine and announce, at the beginning of elections, which documents shall be accepted for identification. Provided however that, identification documents issued and certified by municipalities and by chief aldermen of villages and communities shall not be valid in implementation of this paragraph.
In villages with a population not more than 2,000, the identity of a voter, registered in the ballot-box voter list and failing to present a certificate of identity although the voter is requested to present a certificate of identity according to the first paragraph, may be determined with the witness of two voters known by the ballot-box committee. Adjacent to the signature of the voter casting vote as specified above, the names and identities of witnesses shall be written after which the witnesses shall sign.

VOTING ORDER

ARTICLE 88 - Voters shall not be subject to any intervention, solicitation or advice at the ballot box and voters shall not be allowed to stay by the ballot-box after casting his/her vote.

VOTING TIME

ARTICLE 89 - On the day of voting, the time between 08:00 and 17:00 hrs shall be the voting time. However, voters waiting in line to cast their votes at 17:00 hrs shall be counted by the chairman and allowed to cast their votes in sequence.
(Annexed Paragraph: 3959 - 28.12.1993) Beginning and closing hours of voting time may be determined by the Supreme Board of Elections in the entire country or in election districts considered necessary, depending on seasonal and regional properties and transportation, provided that the length of time is maintained and that the said times are announced not later than one week in advance of the election day.

VOTING SEQUENCE

ARTICLE 90 - Voters coming to related ballot-box on the day of voting shall be admitted by the chairman of the committee consecutively, one voter at a time. Pregnant women, ill and disabled voters shall have priority. Elderly voters may be admitted earlier.

PROCEDURES BEFORE VOTING

ARTICLE 91 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) A voter admitted by the committee shall prove his/her identity by presenting his/her identification certificate.
The chairman shall find the voter's name in the ballot-box voter list and after giving the water a integrated ballot paper kept on the table directs the voter to voting booth in case of more than one voting booths in the ballot-box area and explain the voter the integrated ballot paper and how to fold and seal the integrated ballot paper into an envelope or fold envelopes, depending on the nature of the election and to exit when finished.
A voter receiving the integrated ballot paper or the envelope shall directly go to the voting booth and shall not leave the area without casting his/her vote..
The integrated ballot paper shall be recovered from any voter not entering in the voting booth or not casting vote although he/she received the integrated ballot paper.

STAYING IN THE VOTING BOOTH

ARTICLE 92 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) No one can enter a voting booth unless the voter in the booth exits. Provided however that, a voter staying in the booth longer than the time required for preparing the ballot paper or the envelope shall be warned by the chairman and then shall be removed out if insists to stay.

INSERTING THE COMBINED BALLOT PAPER IN THE BOX AND MARKING

ARTICLE 93 - (Amended by Law No. 234 on 17.5.1979) After folding and sticking the combined ballot papers in the voting booth, voters shall leave the booth and insert the combined ballot papers personally in the ballot-box.

Disabled voters, with apparent disability such as blindness, stroke, paralysis or similar physical defects may be accompanied by one of their relatives who are voters in the same election district or, in the absence of any relative, by any other voter to provide assistance in casting their votes. A voter can not accompany to more than one disabled.

The chairman of the ballot-box committee shall, while delivering the voter his/her identity card, have the voter sign the box adjacent to his/her name in the voter list and mark the left index finger of the voter with special permanent ink. Voters not able to sign may affix their finger print on the signature box in the list. Voters lacking the said index finger may imprint any other finger and the chairman shall write on the list to which finger the print belongs. The chairman shall mark the neck part of voters having no fingers.

VOTING BY BOARD MEMBERS, DEPUTIES, CANDIDATES AND CITIZENS RESIDING IN OTHER COUNTRIES

ARTICLE 94 - (Amended by Law No. 3270 on 28.2.1986) I. The chairman of the county election board shall issue a document indicating that the bearer is a voter and is entitled to vote in the election and also providing the information contained in the ballot-box voter list for each of the chairman and members of the ballot-box committee not registered in the voter list for the ballot-box where he is commissioned, although entitled to vote in the election district and shall also notify the case to the chairman of the ballot-box committee where he is registered in order to be recorded in the ballot-box voter list where he is actually registered.

The chairman and the members shall cast votes at the ballot-box where they are commissioned by presenting the said certificate to the ballot-box committee in question.

Deputies and candidates may cast votes in any election district outside of their registered zone by presenting their voter cards.

In that case, the names of such voters shall be added to the end of the list, next to which the related voter shall sign.

Procedures performed under this paragraph shall be registered in minutes.

II. a) (Amended by Law No. 3377 on 23.5.1987) Voters not registered in Voter Register and residing in another country for more than six months may cast their votes at ballot-boxes to be installed at customs ports pursuant to subparagraph (c) while entering or exiting Turkey, starting on the seventy-fifth day in advance of the day on which general elections for deputies shall be made, until 17:00 hours on the election day.

These voters may cast votes only to political parties participating in the election.

b) (Amended by Law No. 3377 on 23.5.1987) The Supreme Board of Elections shall send combined ballot papers containing the political parties participating in the meeting and vote envelopes printed in a special colour so that they shall be received by the related county election boards not later than three days in advance of the date of election.

Printed integrated ballot papers bearing the watermark 'Supreme Board of Elections' shall contain special emblems, abbreviated names and full names only of the political parties participating in the election and a circle with a diameter of 2 cm under the section reserved for each party.

c) (Amended by Law No. 3377 on 23.5.1987) Votes may be cast at customs ports to be designated by the Supreme Board of Elections between 08:00 hrs on the 75th day before the date of voting and until 17:00 hrs. on Sunday which is the election day. The Supreme Board of Elections shall be authorised to determine at which customs ports voting shall be possible for 24 hours and at which ports voting times shall be lesser.

d) The Supreme Board of Elections shall determine in advance,

The number of election boards and ballot-box committees to perform duty in voting at customs ports, the number of principal and alternate members and the qualifications of thereof shall be designated by the Supreme Board of Elections in advance.

Ballot-box committees shall prepare a sufficient number of voting booths to provide smooth and confidential performance of voting procedures. Related authorities shall render all assistance to ballot-box committees.

e) No verbal or written electioneering shall be allowed at customs ports during the period of voting.

f) Voters attending at customs ports for voting shall present their passports to the chairman of the ballot-box committee.

The chairman of ballot-box committee shall determine the name, surname, father's name, age and passport number of the voter as given in the passport of the voter. The voter shall receive the combined ballot papers and the envelope stamped with the seal of the ballot-box committee and enter the voting booth to cast his/her vote.

The statement 'voted' shall be written in an appropriate page of the passport of a voter casting his/her votes in accordance with the general principles as specified by the Supreme Board of Elections and the chairman of the ballot-box committee shall seal and sign underneath the said statement. The voter who has cast his/her vote shall sign the box adjacent to his/her name in the list and thus complete the procedure of voting.

g) During the period of voting, at every shift of ballot-box committees, the ballot-boxes shall be opened as stipulated by the Law and the vote envelopes therein and the number of voters who have cast their votes shall be matched and written down in a minute.

Vote envelopes and a copy of the minute shall be inserted in a bag and the mouth of the bag shall be sealed and the bag shall be delivered by the chairman of the ballot-box committee to the related election board for custody.

The boxes and bags shall be opened in conformity to general principles after 17:00 hrs on the day of general elections and votes shall be counted and listed. The results shall be notified to the Supreme Board of Elections through fastest means.

h) Results submitted by ballot-box committees at customs ports shall be integrated by the Supreme Board of Elections. Total number of valid votes cast shall be added on the total number of valid votes cast throughout Turkey. Votes obtained by parties shall be added on votes submitted by other election boards and the number of valid votes obtained by a party throughout Turkey is calculated.

In this way, total votes as specified in Article 33 of the Law for Election of Deputies no. 2839 shall be found.

Total valid votes in each election district shall be increased by the ratio obtained by dividing total votes submitted by customs election boards by votes received from other election boards.

The difference between total votes cast within that election district and the total votes calculated as above shall be distributed to parties at the rate of their shares in total votes from customs ports election boards and figures so obtained shall be added to valid votes obtained by the parties within that election district. Consequently, the quantity of total valid votes cast in the election district under Article 34 of the Deputy Election Law no. 2839 and the total valid votes obtained by the parties shall be found.

PART FOUR
COUNTING AND LISTING OF VOTES

MEASURES FOR COUNTING OF VOTES

ARTICLE 95 - Counting and listing shall be made publicly. Persons present at the place of voting shall supervise the counting and listing procedures.

The committee shall pass a resolution to define the area to be vacated around the table on which counting and listing procedures are performed for orderly and safe performance of committee activities and may take measures in the perimeter of this area (such as limiting the area with a rope) to enable the participants observe the procedures.

CHECKING THE NUMBER OF VOTERS

ARTICLE 96 - (Amended Paragraph 1: 3959 - 28.12.1993) If the ballot-box is not placed somewhere else by the Supreme Board of Elections pursuant to last paragraph of Article 89, it shall not be opened before 17:00 hours. Upon completion of voting, this shall be announced by the chairman of the committee loudly. All objects on the table except the ballot-box shall be removed. It is recorded in the minutes that voting procedure is completed.
Subsequently, the total number of voters contained in the ballot-box voter list and the total number of voters who have actually cast their votes shall be determined by counting the number of signatures or finger prints set adjacent to names of voters. The result shall be announced loudly.

UNUSED COMBINED BALLOT PAPERS AND ENVELOPES
ARTICLE 97 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) Unused vote envelopes or integrated ballot papers shall be counted and added on the number of voters who have cast their votes and compared to the total number of envelopes or combined ballot papers delivered to the committee. Unused envelopes or combined ballot papers shall be packed, sealed and numbered.
Subsequently, the bag to be used for inserting the ballot papers removed from the ballot-box shall be checked for emptiness. All these procedures shall be recorded.

OPENING THE BALLOT BOX AND COUNTING THE VOTES
ARTICLE 98 - Following performance of procedures mentioned above, the ballot-box shall be opened before all attendants at the voting place and the total number of envelopes removed from the box shall be counted and recorded.
The number of envelopes shall be compared with the number of voters. If the number of the envelopes is higher than the number of voters who have cast their votes, all envelopes shall be checked and envelopes not bearing double seals and not complying with certain conditions according to Article 77, or envelopes defining the identity of the voter by means of any sign, mark, signature or stamp pursuant to Article 103 shall be set aside. If subtracting the number of such envelopes from total number does not remove the excess, the chairman of the committee shall randomly select envelopes in such quantity necessary to achieve equilibrium between the number of envelopes and the number of voters. The number of envelopes set aside shall be recorded and these envelopes shall be destroyed by burning without opening. Next, the valid envelopes shall be counted and placed in the box and listing shall be initiated immediately. All of these procedures shall be recorded in the minutes book.

COUNTING AND LISTING OF VOTES
ARTICLE 99 - Counting and listing of votes shall continue without break. Any objections shall not suspend the procedure.

OPENING THE ENVELOPES
ARTICLE 100 - The chairman of the ballot-box committee shall, before initiating vote counting and listing procedure, show to attendants that counting and listing schedules are blank and contain no writing and assign the following duties among committee members:
a) Two members of other political parties, if any, assigned to fill out lists;
b) A member of a political party, assigned to remove the envelopes from the box and deliver them to the chairman;
c) One member assigned to insert the listed ballot papers into the bag;

The commissioned member shall remove vote envelopes from the box one at a time and deliver the same to the chairman who shall open the envelope and read the ballot paper removed from the envelope in a manner to be seen and heard by all attendants in the area.
The committee shall decide whether a ballot paper shall be valid and taken into consideration pursuant to Articles 103 and 104 and recorded in the minute and votes considered valid and taken into consideration by the committee shall be written in the schedule.
Ballot papers not considered valid and not taken into consideration shall be packed and stored separately.

As reading the ballot papers proceeds, one of the two members assigned to fill the schedule shall mark the schedule as appropriate.
The chairman shall hand the ballot papers so read and counted to the other commissioned member who shall insert them in the bag.
Ballot papers may be seen by other members of the committee and by observers of parties. Candidates and observers of parties shall be given a place at the vote counting table.
However, if the number of observers of parties is more than three, the chairman of the ballot-box committee shall draw a name amongst the said observers to determine those to stay by the box. A place close to the box shall be arranged to enable other observers and the observers of independent candidates to observe the counting procedure.

AUDITING BALLOT BOX PAPERS AND THE NUMBER OF ENVELOPES OPENED
ARTICLE 101 - Upon completion of counting and listing of votes, ballot papers put in the bag shall be checked for compliance with the number of envelopes removed from the box and the result is registered.

NAME TO BE WRITTEN ON BALLOT PAPERS
ARTICLE 102 - Ballot papers must contain the name and surname of the candidate. Provided however that the vote shall be valid if the identity of the candidate is clearly understood by the name and surname.

INVALID ENVELOPES AND COMBINED BALLOT PAPERS
ARTICLE 103 - (Amended by Law No. 2234 on 17.5.1979) The following ballot papers shall not be valid:
1. Ballot papers inserted in envelopes other than the envelopes provided by the ballot-box committee in uniform shape and colour with double seals.
2. Integrated ballot papers bearing signatures, seals or marks identifying the voter and ballot papers inserted in envelopes in such manner,
3. Ballot papers printed on papers other than those provided by the ballot-box committee, produced specially and which incorporates the watermark 'The Republic of Turkey, Supreme Board of Elections',
4. (Amended by Law No. 2839 on 10.6.1983) Integrated ballot papers not bearing the seal of the chairman of the ballot-box committee on the back side,
5. Ballot papers with "Yes" seal stamped in such manner as to invade more than one of the areas reserved for political parties or independent candidates,
6. Combined ballot papers having no "Yes" stamp in any area as well as ballot papers with "Yes" stamp invading more than one areas reserved for political parties and independent candidates,
7. Ballot papers the envelope of which contains also a handout or any other paper,
8. In elections where integrated ballot papers are not used, ballot papers inserted in envelopes other than the envelopes provided by the ballot-box committee in uniform shape and colour with double seals,
9. Ballot papers other than those specified above and considered invalid pursuant to the provisions of private laws,

If several ballot papers for different parties or independent candidates are removed from one envelope, none of the said ballot papers shall be valid.

BALLOT PAPERS TAKEN OR NOT TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION
ARTICLE 104 - Which of the votes cast shall be or not be considered shall be determined under provisions of private laws regulating each election.

DECLARATION AND REGISTRATION OF RESULTS OF COUNTING
ARTICLE 105 - Immediately after counting of votes and recording of results in schedules, the chairman of the ballot-box committee shall announce the results loudly. Subsequently,
1. the date and time of voting,

2. The hour and minute at which the ballot-box was opened in the presence of the ballot-box committee members and if the ballot-box is opened after 17:00 hours, the cause of late opening,
3. The number of voters registered in the ballot-box voter list,
4. The number of voters who have cast their votes,
5. The number of envelopes removed from the ballot-box and the number of envelopes destroyed by burning and retained according to Article 98,
6. The number of ballot papers considered valid and taking into consideration,
7. The number of ballot papers considered or not calculated and why,
8. The number of ballot papers objected or disputed but considered valid,
9. Total number of votes obtained by each party and the candidates thereof and by independent candidates, (both in figures and in writing)
10. The fact that the results of counting and listing was declared by the chairman to the attendants,
11. The nature of notifications and complaints regarding breach of law by the manner of voting and decisions made with respect thereto

shall be written on the printed minutes paper and undersigned by the chairman and members of the committee.

POSTING THE MINUTES

ARTICLE 106 - A roster showing the names of parties and their candidates and of independent candidates, the number of votes they obtained, the total of ballot papers and the number of valid and considered ballot papers and signed by the chairman and members of the committee, shall be posted up by the chairman of the ballot-box committee in a prominent manner in the vicinity of the ballot-box. The roster shall be left in place for a period of one week. Certified copes of the rosters must immediately be given to observers of political parties and of independent candidates if they request.

DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS RELATED TO COUNTING OF VOTES

ARTICLE 107 - Ballot papers considered valid, minutes issued by the ballot-box committee, undersigned vote counting schedules used in counting and listing, invalid, unconsidered and objected ballot papers, uncounted envelopes, the minutes book shall be placed, in separate packages signed sealed by the committee, in a bag sealed by the committee and signed by the chairman and members an shall be delivered to county election board to which the ballot-box committee is affiliated to by the chairman of the ballot-box committee and at least two members designated by the chairman by drawing names.

Other members of the committee and observers may participate if they wish and if the vehicle is available or by providing the means of transport themselves.

The county election board shall open the bag in the presence of the members delivering the bag and issue a list in three copies showing the contents of the bag. The list shall be undersigned by the persons delivering the bag and the chairman of the county election board and one of the members. A copy of the list shall be attached to the document to be sent to the provincial election board. A copy of the list shall be delivered to the chairman of the ballot-box committee.

CHAPTER FIVE
PROCEDURES FOLLOWING ELECTION

PART ONE

COMBINATION OF ELECTION RESULTS BY COUNTY ELECTION BOARDS

ARTICLE 108 - During counting, listing and combining procedures to be performed by the county election board, the candidates and observers of political parties as well as independent candidate and their observes may be present if they wish. If the number of independent candidates and their observers is more than five, the first five names drawn may

remain to observe the procedures. A place close to the box shall be arranged to enable other independent candidates and observers to observe the procedures. Classification and integration procedures shall be made publicly.
The county election board shall, while taking delivery of the documents sent by ballot-box committees as they come at intervals, operate continuously and proceed with combining the minutes delivered by ballot-box committees.
Upon receipt of the last ballot-box minutes, integration of all ballot-box minutes shall be completed and the result shall be recorded in a minute. Votes obtained by parties and their candidates as well as by independent candidates shall be included in the minutes in the required order.
Out of votes obtained by the parties and their candidates as well as by the independent candidates those considered valid without objection shall be added on votes considered valid although objected and total number of valid votes within that county shall be recorded in the minutes.
A certified copy of the minutes issued by the county election board shall be delivered to the provincial election board by the chairman of the county election board and at least two members.
A copy of the minutes showing the quantities of votes obtained, as indicated in each ballot-box minutes, by the parties and their candidates as well as by the independent candidates shall be delivered immediately to each of the political parties and, if they wish, to observers of independent candidates.
The contents of the minute showing the result of integration shall be announced to attendants and a copy thereof shall be posted up by the chairman of the county election board on the door of the county election board to remain there for a period of one week.
The powers vested in chairmen of ballot-box committees shall also apply for chairmen of county election boards at the place of counting, listing and combining of votes pursuant to Articles 82, 83 and 84.

PART TWO
COMBINING VOTES AT PROVINCIAL ELECTION BOARD

PROVINCIAL ELECTION MINUTES
ARTICLE 109 - Where provincial election boards are commissioned by laws related to elections to issue minutes, the said boards shall integrate election minutes sent by county election boards and issue provincial election minutes.
The contents of the minutes showing the results of integration shall be declared to those present and a copy thereof shall be posted up by the chairman of the provincial election board on the door of the provincial election board. The minute so posted shall remain posted for a week.
The powers vested in chairmen of ballot-box committees shall also apply for chairmen of provincial election boards at the place of counting, listing and combining of votes pursuant to Articles 82, 83 and 84.

CHAPTER SIX
OBJECTIONS AND COMPLAINTS
PART ONE
GENERAL PROVISIONS
ELIGIBILITY FOR OBJECTION
ARTICLE 110 – (Amended: 1700 – 24.3.1973) The following may lodge objections against non definitive decisions of the boards or of the board chairmen mentioned in the present law: citizens who are eligible for standing for elections, political parties or the leaders of different sections of their organisation according to their internal regulations or their attorneys, witnesses, candidates and members of the Senate of the Republic and deputies.
AUTHORITIES TO RESOLVE OBJECTIONS

ARTICLE 111 – The higher board of each relevant board shall answer the objections raised against the decisions of such board which are not specified as definitive decisions in the present law.
The decisions passed by the Supreme Board of Elections on its own account or upon objection shall be definitive.

MODE OF OBJECTION

ARTICLE 112 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Objections may be expressed in written or verbal form. Verbal objections shall be recorded in writing together with the ground of the objection. The name and address of the objector shall also be written and the record shall be signed by the objector. Those objectors who cannot sign shall stamp their finger print.
Objectors must be able to prove their identity and present evidence and ground of objection. Otherwise, their objections shall not be taken into account and it shall be recorded that the objection has not been taken into account for the reason mentioned above.
The same conditions shall apply to written objections and pieces of evidence shall accompany written applications for objection. No written objections without ground or evidence shall be taken into account. In both cases, a receipt shall be given to the objector certifying that the objection has been received together with the date of the reception of the objection. Objections shall be addressed to the chairman of the relevant board of elections. If the chairman is not available, written objections shall be addressed to the prosecutor on duty in exchange for a receipt. The prosecutor on duty shall record the objection and send it to the chairman of the relevant board of elections.
At the beginning of the elections, each political party shall announce those people who are authorised to lodge objections on behalf of that political party by means of a sealed and signed letter addressed to the boards of elections. A circular letter of signature specimens shall also be delivered after being approved by the leader of the political party. Those people who lodge an objection on behalf of a political party shall not be required to prove their identity.
Declaration of the official authorities who are in possession of the pieces of evidence shall be considered as the delivery of the pieces of evidence themselves. Such pieces of evidence shall be provided by the board of elections.
Objections addressed to the Supreme Board of Elections shall be in written form.

DECISIONS TO RESOLVE OBJECTIONS

ARTICLE 113 – In the event a higher board finds that an objection against the decision of a lower board is justified, the same higher board shall also decide about what is to be done.
Boards shall deliver decisions by an absolute majority of the votes. In the event of the equality of opposing votes, the vote of the chairman shall prevail.
The Supreme Board of Elections shall convene with its full number of members to deliberate over objections against returns to be delivered to the elected.
On other matters, a majority of the members shall be sufficient for deliberations. In both cases, decisions shall be delivered by an absolute majority of the votes.
In the event of the equality of opposing votes, the vote of the chairman shall prevail.

ANNOUNCEMENT AND NOTIFICATION OF DECISIONS

ARTICLE 114 – Non definitive decisions delivered upon objection shall be notified verbally if the objector is present.
In verbal notifications, the date and time of the notification shall be recorded and the objector shall sign the record. The objector may keep a copy of the record.
If the objector is not available, the decision shall be notified to a predetermined place located in the town where the boards of elections are based provided that such a place has been designated in advance.
The definitive decisions of the boards shall not be notified. However, the objector shall be allowed to examine the decision upon his/her request and receive a copy upon his/her request.

CHARGES

ARTICLE 115 – No documents relating to objections shall be subject to any charges.

PART TWO

COMPLAINTS

DESCRIPTION OF A COMPLAINT AND AUTHORITIES TO BE ADDRESSED FOR COMPLAINTS

ARTICLE 116 – Complaints are applications for the correction of operations and measures conducted and taken by chairmen of county boards of elections and other people who are in charge of creating the registers or by provincial or county boards of elections or ballot box committees or the chairmen of the mentioned boards or committees in the exercise of their powers granted by the present law, or applications for the prevention of breaches of the prohibitions established by the present law. Complaints shall be addressed to the relevant boards or to their respective chairmen or to other officials in verbal or written form by the eligible people specified in Article 110 above.

EXAMINATION OF COMPLAINTS

ARTICLE 117 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) If a complaint is found justified, then the operations which are the subject of the complaint shall be corrected and the breaches of prohibitions prevented.

In the event a complaint is not found justified, such situation shall be recorded. A copy of that decision shall be given to the complainer. If there is no specific time-limit determined by law, objections against these decisions must be lodged within 48 hours.

OBJECTIONS OR COMPLAINTS SHALL NOT STOP ANY ELECTION OPERATIONS

ARTICLE 118 – Objections or complaints shall not stop the casting of votes or any other operations related to the elections.

PART THREE

OBJECTIONS AGAINST AND COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE FORMATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE BOARDS

OBJECTIONS AGAINST AND COMPLAINTS ABOUT BALLOT BOX COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 119 – Complaints can be lodged demanding the correction of an operation carried out by a county board of elections or by its chairman concerning the formation of ballot box committees, within two days after the completion of the operation in question.

Objections may be lodged against decisions rejecting such complaints within two days following the notification of such decision. Such objections shall be addressed to the provincial board of elections. The relevant provincial board of elections shall deliver a definitive decision within two days.

Objections can be lodged against the formation of ballot box committees even if no such complaint has been lodged, provided that such objections are lodged within two days following the formation of the ballot box committee with the provincial board of elections. The decision of the provincial board of elections shall be definitive.

OBJECTIONS AND COMPLAINTS CONCERNING COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 120 - Objections can be lodged against the formation of county boards of elections within two days following the formation of the county board of elections in question with the relevant provincial board of elections. The provincial board of elections shall deliver a decision within two days on that matter and such decision shall be definitive.

OBJECTIONS AND COMPLAINTS CONCERNING PROVINCIAL BOARDS OF ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 121 - Objections can be lodged with the Supreme Board of Elections on matters concerning the formation of provincial boards of elections within three days following the formation of the provincial board of elections. The Supreme Board of Elections shall deliver a decision within three days on that matter.

PART FOUR

OBJECTIONS CONCERNING BALLOT BOX VOTERS' LISTS

OBJECTIONS CONCERNING PUBLICLY DISPLAYED ALDERMAN QUARTER VOTERS' LISTS

ARTICLE 122 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) The county officials of political parties mentioned in Article 112 may lodge objections or complaints against the publicly displayed voters' lists of the alderman zones with the relevant county board of elections, if the objection or complaint is related to the voters residing at that county. Officials of the headquarters of

political parties may lodge objections or complaints concerning all voters' registers with the Supreme Board of Elections. Voters may lodge objections or complaints concerning themselves with the relevant county board of elections.
Objections against the publicly displayed alderman zone voters' lists shall be resolved by the chairman of the relevant board and his/her decision shall be definitive.
A copy of the decision shall be sent to the General Directorate of Voters' Registers and recorded on the registers.

OBJECTIONS AGAINST PUBLICLY DISPLAYED VOTERS' LISTS OF BALLOT BOX AREAS

ARTICLE 123 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Political parties' provincial and county leaders as announced in paragraph 4 of Article 14 and members of a county board of elections may lodge objections against the publicly displayed ballot box voters' lists while the voters' lists are publicly displayed on the grounds that the information on the ballot box voters' lists does not comply with the publicly displayed voters' lists or with the decisions delivered after examination of objections or that the separation of ballot boxes does not comply with the laws and with official notices. Such complaints shall be addressed to the county board of elections.
Such objections shall be examined by the county board of elections and its decision shall be notified to the objector and to the provincial board of elections.
The objector may lodge an objection against that decision with the provincial board of elections.
The final decision of the provincial board of elections, together with the non-contested decisions of the county of elections, shall be sent to the Supreme Board of Elections – General Directorate of Voters' Lists.

MODE OF OBJECTION AGAINST VOTERS' LISTS

ARTICLE 124 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Headquarters officials of political parties and the General Director of Voters' Registers shall have the right to have their definitive decisions on objections and complaints as specified in Articles 122 and 123 and the present article examined and resolved by the Supreme Board of Elections.
The drawing of lots concerning the time, duration, examination and resolution of the objections and complaints as specified in Article 122 and 123 and in the present article shall be announced by the Supreme Board of Elections not later than one month prior to the first public display of voters' lists.
The voters' registers information which has been modified, removed or added by decisions delivered upon objection shall be kept in separate "updating register".

OBJECTIONS AGAINST CANDIDATURES

ARTICLE 125 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Objections can be lodged against candidatures on the grounds that a candidate is not eligible for candidature by those people designated in Article 110, within two days from the date of the announcement of the candidature in accordance with the legislation specific to the candidature in question, unless there is a contradictory provision in the specific legislation.
On the other hand, no objections concerning the determination of the candidates of a political party can be lodged by any person who is not a member of that party on the grounds that the internal regulations of that political party have been breached. No objections which are not accompanied by a document supporting the membership of the objector shall be taken into account.
Such objections shall be addressed to the board of elections which is in charge of administrating the elections depending on the nature of the elections. Objections against the decision of such board of elections can be lodged with the higher board of such board of elections. The decision of such higher board shall be definitive.
Such objections must be in written form and accompanied by the documents which support the objection.
(Added paragraph: 4125 – 27.10.1995)
(Abolished by Decision no. E.1995/54 K. 1995/59 of the Constitutional Court dated 18.11.1995 published in Official Gazette no. 22470 Mük. dated 21 November 1995.)

TIME-LIMIT FOR THE EXAMINATION OF OBJECTIONS

ARTICLE 126 – Candidatures shall become definitive in accordance with the periods determined by their specific laws. The higher boards which are entitled to deliver definitive decisions shall resolve objections before the expiration of these periods.

PART FIVE

OBJECTIONS AGAINST DECISIONS DELIVERED BY BALLOT BOX COMMITTEES OR BY THEIR CHAIRMEN

ARTICLE 127 – The concerned may promptly lodge objections against decisions rejecting objections under Article 110 against the operations of the ballot box committees or of their chairmen or against any ballot box operation. Such objections shall be addressed to the chairman of the county board of elections.

The chairman of the county board of elections shall promptly examine the objection and resolve it.

If the decision of the chairman of the county board of elections corrects the situation or cancels the decision of the ballot box committee, then such decision shall promptly be notified to the chairman of the ballot box committee. Compliance with the decision is obligatory.

Complaints and objections must be lodged no later than the drawing up of the returns determining the results of the elections.

OBJECTIONS AGAINST THE DECISIONS OF THE BALLOT BOX COMMITTEE AND AGAINST RETURNS

ARTICLE 128 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Objections may be lodged against the decisions of the ballot box committee and the drawing up of returns. The addressee of such objections shall be the county board of elections.

Such objections may be lodged in written or verbal form not later than the drawing up of the ballot box record through ballot box committees or direct with the county board of elections not later than 14.00 on the first Tuesday following the elections.

County boards of elections shall resolve the objections no later than 17.00 on the second day after their reception of the objection. If the objector is present, then the decision shall be notified to the objector in person. Otherwise, it shall be notified by mail.

County boards of elections shall not draw up any official records concerning the summing up of votes before examining and resolving the objections lodged within the above mentioned time-limit or within a specific time-limit.

PART SIX

OBJECTIONS AGAINST DECISIONS DELIVERED BY COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS OR BY THEIR CHAIRMEN OR AGAINST SUMMING UP OF VOTES AT COUNTIES

ARTICLE 129 – Objections against a decision delivered by a county board of elections or of its chairman about complaints about concerning the county board's own operations and objections against other decisions may be lodged before the return for the result of the county summing up of votes is drawn up. Objections against the drawing up of the return for the county summing up of votes and objections against the operations related thereto and the results thereof must be lodged not later than 17.00 on the day following the drawing up of the return in question. Such objections shall be lodged with the relevant provincial board of elections directly or via the county board of elections.

Objections against rejection of objections against the operations and measures of a county board of elections or of its chairman shall be definitively resolved within two days.

If an objection is found justified, then such decision shall be notified to the chairman of the concerned county board of elections using the fastest way of communication.

Other objections shall be resolved within two days. If the objector is present, the decision shall be notified to the objector verbally. Otherwise it shall be notified by mail.

PART SEVEN

OBJECTIONS AGAINST DECISIONS DELIVERED AND RETURNS DRAWN UP BY A PROVINCIAL BOARD OF ELECTIONS OR BY ITS CHAIRMAN AND EXTRAORDINARY OBJECTIONS

ARTICLE 130 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Objections may be lodged with the Supreme Board of Elections directly or via the provincial board of elections by eligible person as determined in Article 110 against the decisions of a provincial board of elections as follows:

1. Objections against the decisions of a provincial board of elections rejecting objections concerning its own operations must be lodged within three days from the notification or pronouncement of such decision;
2. Objections against the formation of a provincial board of elections must be lodged within three days following the formation of the board;
3. Objections against decisions concerning election day operations must be lodged immediately;
4. Ojections against other decisions must be lodged within three days from the date the objector has been informed of such decision but not later than 17.00 on the third day following the drawing up of the return for the provincial summing up of votes;
5. Objections against the counting and sorting out of votes must be lodged not later than 17.00 on third day following the day of the drawing up of the return for provincial summing up of votes;
6. Objections against the eligibility of a candidate or objections claiming that the receiver of an election return has not been elected in reality or objections concerning facts that may change the result of the elections must be lodged not later than 17.00 on the third day following the drawing up of election return in question.

On the other hand, objections concerning facts that may change the results of the elections lodged by provincial leaders or headquarters of political parties or by independent candidates within 7 days from the date of the drawing up of the return in question shall not be refused to be examined or rejected on the grounds that decisions delivered at lower levels are definitive or have become definitive or that the concerned have failed to apply within the time-limit or in compliance with the hierarchy, if boards which have the authority to deliver definitive decisions believe that such objection may change the results of the elections.

Such objections shall be lodged in written form. The objection application shall contain the name and address of the objector and a statement of the nature of the alleged facts and the ground for objection and evidence. Documents must also be provided. If such documents are not available, then their origin and the place where they are available and the conditions of obtaining them must be stated.

However, once a candidature has become definitive, no objection shall be allowed against such candidatures except for reasons concerning the Turkish citizenship, age, literacy or past convictions of the candidate. This provision shall also apply to extraordinary objections.

Objection applications which do not satisfy these conditions shall not be accepted.

PART EIGHT

OBJECTIONS AGAINST THE OPERATIONS AND MEASURES OF THE SUPREME BOARD OF ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 131 – The persons eligible for lodging objections under Article 110 may lodge objections in written form directly with the Supreme Board of Elections, while elections are underway, against operations and measures of the Supreme Board of Elections other than decisions contested or delivered upon objection by the Supreme the Board of Elections or and against unlawful acts for which no authority has been specified for objection or remedy in the present law and which exceed the authority of lower boards.

Written objections must satisfy the conditions specified in Article112. Upon such objections, the Supreme Board of Elections shall promptly deliver a definitive decision.

METHOD OF EXAMINATION AND INVESTIGATION

ARTICLE 132 – The Supreme Board of Elections shall carry out examinations on documents and any sort of investigation it finds fit. It can ask relevant authorities to provide it with all sorts of necessary documents and information. Such authorities are responsible for delivering the requested documents and information promptly and in seven days' time in any case.

The Chairman of the Board may employ employees of the Supreme Court or of the Supreme State Council if necessary.

A copy of each objection application shall be delivered to the person whose election return has been contested. That person may defend him/herself in writing or, upon his/her request, defend him/herself before the Board in person or by means of a proxy on a date and time to be determined by the Board. The Board shall resolve the objections within three months from the date of the reception of the objection or information in question.
Decisions of the Board shall be definitive. No recourse to an authority or to legal action is allowed against its decisions.
For objections to be lodged with the authority which has the power to deliver definitive decisions on the results of the elections, depending on the kind of the elections in question, the provisions of the first and third paragraphs above shall be applicable.
However, the board in question shall resolve the objections within 15 days.
No recourse to an authority or to legal action is allowed against the decisions mentioned in the paragraphs above.
In the event a return is cancelled, the provisions of the relevant specific law shall be applicable.

PART SEVEN
ELECTION OFFENCES AND PENALTIES
OFFENCES AGAINST BOARDS

ARTICLE 133 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those who prevent the boards mentioned in the present law from convening or from fulfilling their function by means of fraudulent acts or by any means whatsoever or by using violence or coercion or threat shall be punishable by terms of prison of at least 18 months and by fines from 5 thousand TL to 25 thousand TL.
If the offences mentioned above are committed by using weapons, the term of the prison sentence shall not be less than 3 years. If the mentioned offences are committed by the collaboration of three people one of them being armed or by more than three people at least two of them being armed with or without collaboration between them, then such offenders shall be punishable by prison terms of at least 5 years.

DISOBEYING MEASURES OF THE BOARDS

ARTICLE 134 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those who do not obey during the elections the decisions and measures taken by a board mentioned in the present law or by the chairman of such a board in order to ensure the proper conduct of the elections despite warning shall be punishable by prison terms from ten days to one month and by fines from 500 TL to 2,500 TL.
Those who hinder the implementation of such decisions and measures in any manner whatsoever or cause such decisions and measures to be ineffective shall be punishable by terms of prison from one month to six months and by fines from 1,000 TL to 5,000 TL.
If the offences mentioned above are committed by people in charge, the offenders shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to six months for the cases described in the first paragraph above and from six months to one year for the cases described in the second paragraph above, if such offences do not constitute more serious offences according to the Turkish Penal Code. The offenders shall also be punishable by a corresponding ban from public services.

DISOBEDIENCE BY A BOARD MEMBER

ARTICLE 135 – Board members which do not abide by the decisions taken by the a board mentioned in the present law by a majority of votes shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to one year.

ABSENCE IN PLACE OF DUTY OF A BOARD MEMBER

ARTICLE 136 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those board members who are not present at their place of duty despite being duly appointed to such duty shall be punishable by a fine from 5,000 TL to 25,000 TL.
Those who leave their place of duty while the elections are underway without justified reason shall be punishable by prison terms from two months to six months and by fines from 5,000 TL to 25,000 TL.

FAILURE TO MAKE REQUESTED MATERIALS AVAILABLE IN TIME

ARTICLE 137 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) If the chairman or a member of a board or any person in charged of a duty specified in the present law fails to send the ballot box voters' lists, lists of candidates, papers and packages and ballot papers relating to the elections, ballot boxes, ballot paper envelopes or other tangible or intangible means and other election materials to their destination or prevents them from reaching their destination or fails to take delivery of them, then such chairman or member of board shall be punishable by a prison term of at least one year and by a fine from 5,000 TL to 25, 000 TL. The offenders shall also be punishable by a corresponding ban from public services.

NEGLIGENCE ON DUTY AND ABUSE OF AUTHORITY

ARTICLE 138 – If people who are in charge of implementing the present law or people who are appointed under the present law to take charge of certain duties exhibit negligent behaviour or abuse their position, such offenders shall be punishable as provided by the Turkish Penal Code for such offences by aggravating the relevant sentences by from one sixth to one third, if no specific sentence is provided by the present law.

OFFENCES COMMITTED BY CIVIL SERVANTS

ARTICLE 139 – Offences committed by people appointed to take charge of certain duties under the present law shall be punishable by sentences aggravated by from one sixth to half, for offences other than those punishable individually or subject to aggravated punishment.

OFFENCES RELATING TO THE PREPARATION OF VOTERS' LISTS

ARTICLE 140 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those who do not deliver the plans and lists of buildings which are to serve as a basis for the preparation of voters' lists within the time-limit determined by the responsible county board of elections or those who deliver plans and lists of buildings which are not suitable for the preparation of voters' lists shall be punishable in accordance with Articles 240 and 230 of the Turkish Penal Code by aggravating the relevant sentences by from one sixth to one third depending on the seriousness of the offence.

Those who do not abide by the rules announced during the census of voters and during the procedures of recording and checking and those who abstain from answering questions or those who wilfully give wrong answers or those who leave the place where they are supposed to be before the time they are allowed to do so on the first day of voters' census and recording shall be punishable by fines from 2,500 TL to 10,000 TL, if their offence does not constitute a criminal offence.

FORMATION OF VOTERS' REGISTERS

ARTICLE 141 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) If those people who are appointed to prepare the documents relating to the voters' lists by the present law fail to do so properly and in time or to keep such documents or to deliver them to the relevant authorities, then such people shall be punishable by prison terms from six months to two years.

If such offences are a result of indifference or neglect, then the offenders shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to one year.

If such an offence has actually prevented the preparation of voters' registers or ballot box voters' lists or the casting of votes in any election district, then offenders shall be punishable by prison terms from one year to two years for the cases described in the first paragraph and from six months to two years for the cases described in the second paragraph.

OFFENCES COMMITTED BY PEOPLE WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF PREPARING VOTERS' REGISTERS

ARTICLE 142 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those who have registered a non eligible person in a voters' register and those who have abstained from registering an eligible person in a voters' register and those who have failed to remove a non eligible person from a voters' register and those who removed an eligible person from a voters' register shall be punishable by prison terms from one year to two years.

If such offences have been committed due to indifference or negligence, than the offenders shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to six months.

NON ELIGIBLE PERSONS HAVING THEMSELVES REGISTERED IN VOTERS' LISTS

ARTICLE 143 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those who have had themselves registered in a voters' register although they are not eligible or have had non eligible persons registered in a voters' register or prevented the removal of such non eligible persons from a voters' register and caused an eligible person to be removed from a voters' register shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to one year and by fines from 2,500 TL to 10,000 TL.

If the above-described offences have been committed by using violence, threat or coercion or by using undue influence, then the offenders shall be punishable by prison terms from one year to five years.

BEING REGISTERED IN A VOTERS' REGISTER MORE THAN ONCE

ARTICLE 144 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those who wilfully have themselves or others registered in voters' registers more than once or wilfully commit acts that will lead to registration in voters' registers more than once shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to one year and by fines from 2,500 TL to 10,000 TL.

If the offences described above have been committed by people who are in charge of the concerned functions, then the offenders shall be punishable by prison terms from one year to two years and by fines from 2,500 TL to 10,000 TL.

ENCOURAGING OTHERS NOT BE REGISTERED IN VOTERS' REGISTERS

ARTICLE 145 – Those who encourage others not to be registered in voters' registers shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to six months.

If eligible persons fail to be registered in voters' registers due to such acts, then the offenders shall be punishable by prison terms from six months to one year.

If such offences are committed by using violence, threat or coercion, then the punishments specified above shall be doubled.

If such offences are committed by a civil servant or by a person who is considered as a civil servant, then Article 139 shall also be applicable in addition to the provisions above.

OFFENCES ON VOTERS' LISTS

ARTICLE 146 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) If the offences described in Articles 141, 142, 143 and 144 have been committed on ballot box voters' lists after the preparation of voters registers and on other lists to be prepared pursuant to decisions of the Supreme Board of Elections, then the offenders shall be punishable as specified in the mentioned articles.

OFFENCES CONCERNING VOTERS' LISTS

ARTICLE 147 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those people in charge who fail to post the voters' lists that must be posted or those who remove them before due time or those who prevent citizens from properly examining them or those who do not resolve objections or notify such objections to the relevant authorities shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to two years and by fines from 1,000 TL to 5,000 TL.

If such offences have been committed due to indifference or negligence, than the offenders shall be punishable by prison terms from one month to six months and by fines from 500 TL to 2,500 TL.

OFFENCES COMMITTED ON VOTERS' REGISTERS, VOTERS' LISTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

ARTICLE 148 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those who forge in part or in whole fake voters' registers or voters' lists or those who alter such lists or steal or destroy such lists shall be punishable by prison terms of at least three years.

Those who steal or alter or destroy documents related to voters' registers or voters' lists shall be punishable by the same penalties.

Those who commit one of the offences described above on a document that serves to prove the identity of a voter or those who hide such documents in order to prevent a voter from exercising the right to vote shall be punishable by prison terms from six months to two years.

If the voter in question manages to prove his/her identity and to cast his/her vote, than the penalty above shall be halved.

OFFENCES CONCERNING ELECTION RALLIES

ARTICLE 149 – (Amended: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who speak to an audience in an election rally where the committee described an Article 51 has not been formed shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to six months and by fines from 3,000 TL to 15,000 TL.

Those who prevent an election rally from being held or cause it to prematurely stop shall be punishable by prison terms from six months to one year. If such an offence has been committed by more than two collaborating people by using violence, coercion or threat, each offender shall be punishable by prison terms from two years to five years. If the mentioned offences are committed by the collaboration of more than two people one of them being armed or by more than three people at least two of them being armed with or without collaboration between them, then such offenders shall be punishable by prison terms of 5 to 8 years.

OFFENCES RELATING TO PRIVATE RADIO AND TV BROADCASTING

ARTICLE 149/A - (Added: 3959 – 28.12.1993) If a private radio or TV channel with national broadcasting breaches the provisions of Article 55/A of the present law or a rule determined by the Supreme Board of Elections, then the Supreme Board of Elections may decide that such channels stop their broadcasting for five to fifteen days. If such an offence is committed by a local private radio or TV channel, then the provincial board of elections may decide that the local private radio or TV channel in question should stop its broadcasting for three to seven days.

Such decisions shall be executed by the highest relevant civil authorities.

The responsible officials of a private radio or TV channel which has breached the provision of the first paragraph shall be punishable by fines from 1 billion to five billion TL by the relevant court. The responsible officials of a local radio or TV channel which has breached the provision of the first paragraph shall be punishable by fines from 10 million TL to 100 million TL by the relevant court. In the event of recurrence, the penalties shall be tripled.

For penalties to be inflicted under that paragraph, Article 119 of the Turkish Penal Code shall not be applicable. (*)

OFFENCES AGAINST AN ELECTION RALLY COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 150 – Election rally organisers who have not formed the committee mentioned in Article 51 or failed to notify the relevant authorities and those committee members who have not fulfilled the duties described in the mentioned article shall be punishable by prison terms from fifteen days to three months.

BAN ON ELECTIONEERING ACTIVITIES

ARTICLE 151 – (Amended: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who organise or attend election rallies or conduct electioneering activities in public places after 18.00 on the eve of the election day and on the election day or those who invite people to such rallies or activities or those who conduct electioneering activities in verbal, written or whatever form which may disturb the order of the elections or affect the complete freedom of casting votes and those who spread misleading rumours shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to six months and by fines from 15,000 TL to 75,000 TL.

(Amended: Last paragraph: 3959 – 15.12.1993) Those who breach the prohibitions specified in Articles 58, 60 and 61 shall be punishable by prison terms from six months to 1 year and by fines from one million to five million.

(*) Applicable to only the first general elections under Provisional Article 1 of Law no. 3959 dated 28 December 1993.

ARTICLE 152 – (Amended: paragraph 1: 10.06.1983 – 2839 s. Y. M.49) Those who provide or promise to provide to one or more voters benefits or valuables or public or private positions or services and benefits in exchange for voting for him/her shall be punishable by prison terms from one year to three years. This provision shall apply even if such benefits promised or provided consists of the travel, food and beverage expenses of voters.

A voter who has accepted the above-described benefits or promises thereof shall be punishable by the same penalties.

Penalties shall be doubled for those who have committed these offences by using violence, threat or coercion.

PREVENTING PEOPLE FROM CASTING VOTES

ARTICLE 153 – (Amended: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who confine voters to a place preventing them from going to polls stations for purposes described above or those who prevent voters from moving from a village or quarter or other settlement in order to go to polls stations shall be punishable by prison terms from one year to four years.

If such offences also involve undue influence of civil servants or undue influence of any other person, the prison term to be inflicted shall not be less than 2 years.

BREACHES OF PROVISIONS CONCERNING CANDIDATURES AND PEOPLE WHO ARE BANNED FROM ELECTIONEERING ACTIVITIES

ARTICLE 154 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those civil servants and judges who stand for elections without observing the rules set by specific laws and those armed forces officers, military civil servants and non-commissioned officers, having applied for resignation in order to stand for elections and having their resignation accepted, do not leave their position and conduct electioneering activities wearing their official uniforms or carry out any activities for the same purpose shall be punishable by fines from 2,500 TL to 10,000 TL.

If judges and people who are considered judges and armed forces members and civil servants and employees mentioned in the second paragraph of Article 62 of the present law conduct electioneering activities or otherwise encourage or influence others for or against candidates (whether party member or independent) during the period from the beginning date of the elections as determined by the relevant specific law to the end of the casting of votes, then such people shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to one year and by fines from 2,500 TL to 10,000 TL, the penalties provided by other laws being reserved.

Those who do not observe the prohibitions set by Article 63 shall be punishable by prison terms from six months to one year and by fines from 5,000 TL to 25,000 TL.

FAILURE OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTERS TO OBSERVE PROHIBITIONS

ARTICLE 155 –(Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those who do not observe the prohibitions set in articles 64, 65 and 66 shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to one year and by fines from 2,500 TL to 10,000 TL.

OTHER OFFENCES CONCERNING ELECTIONEERING

ARTICLE 156 – For people who have committed electioneering offences for which no penalty has been specifically determined by the present law, the first paragraph of Article 526 of the Turkish Penal Code shall be applicable.

DESTRUCTION OF PRINTED MATERIALS

ARTICLE 157 – (Amended: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who prevent printed electioneering materials from being distributed or published or those who destroy such materials shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to six months.

CAUSING DISORDER AT POLLS STATIONS

ARTICLE 158 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Voters who insist on not fulfilling their duties concerning the casting of votes at polls station as specified by the present law shall be punishable by fines from 500 TL to 1,000 TL.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR BY VOTERS AT POLLS STATION

ARTICLE 159 – (Amended: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Voters who insist on not leaving the ballot box after casting their vote or try to influence other voters shall be punishable by terms of prison from three months to one year and by fines from 3,000 TL to 15,000 TL.

ARTICLE 160 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) (Amended: First paragraph: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who try to or do cast a vote though they know that they are not eligible shall be punishable by terms of prison from two years to five years and by fines from 5,000 TL to 25,000 TL.

(Amended: paragraph 2: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who try to or do cast a vote pretending being someone else shall be punishable by terms of prison from three years to five years and by fines from 10,000 TL to 50,000 TL.

Those who try to or do cast a vote at a second ballot box (after casting their vote at another ballot box) shall be subject to the provision of the second paragraph.

OFFENCES CONCERNING BALLOT BOXES

ARTICLE 161 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) (Amended: First paragraph: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who displace or move or open a ballot box for whatever reason without observing the relevant procedure or without authority or steal or destroy a ballot box or take out of a ballot box ballot paper envelopes and steal or destroy them or replace them by other ballot papers or steal or destroy ballot paper envelopes which have already been taken out of a ballot box or replace them with other ballot papers shall be punishable by prison terms from three to five years and by fines from 10,000 to 75,000 TL.

If such offences are committed by using violence or coercion or fraud, then the penalty shall be doubled.

OFFENCES ON BALLOT PAPERS

ARTICLE 162 – (Amended first paragraph: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who destroy or steal or alter ballot papers of political parties or independent candidates or any other documents relating to the elections or prevent their transportation to polls stations or distribution shall be punishable by prison of terms from one to three years.

If such an offence has been committed by using violence or coercion or fraud or by more than one person one of them being armed or by breaking into a residence or a political party building, then the penalty shall be doubled.

If such an offence is committed by an official person in charge, then the penalty specified in the paragraph above shall be applicable.

A BOARD CHAIRMAN OR MEMBER CAUSING DISORDER DURING CASTING OF VOTES

ARTICLE 163 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) If a board chairman or member hinders partially or completely election operations or the casting of votes through unlawful acts or wilfully cause elections to become void, then such offender shall be punishable by prison terms from two years to five years and by fines from 10,000 TL to 50,000 TL.

If a board chairman or member fails to announce election results or to post the record or abstains from giving documents to the concerned as required by law, then such offenders shall be punishable by the same penalty.

SITUATIONS WHICH MAY AFFECT THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 164 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) 1. (Amended: 2839 – 10.06.1983) Those who cast a vote or cause a person to cast a vote by affixing a fictitious signature or stamping a seal or stamping a finger on a ballot box voters' list pretending being someone else who has not showed up at the polls station shall be punishable by prison terms from three years to five years and by fines from 15,000 to 75,000 TL.

2. If such an offence has been committed by a board chairman or member or an official employee in charge, then the penalty specified above shall be aggravated by half.

3. (Amended: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who alter or cause someone else to alter the election results or forge in part or in whole fake election records or provoke others to do so shall be punishable by prison terms from five to eight years.

4. If the offences described in the paragraph above are committed by a board chairman or member, then the offenders shall be punishable by prison terms from five to ten years.

5. Those who remove the special paint applied after casting his/her vote or makes it invisible by whatever means and try to or do cast a second vote shall be punishable by prison terms from six months to two years and by fines from 2,500 TL to 25,000 TL. If a ballot box chairman or member wilfully annihilate or destroy the paint stock mentioned in the present paragraph after receiving it from the county board of elections or abstains from applying it to the designated organ of a voter or paint the designated organ of a voter not with that paint but by another one and those persons who compel a voter or a ballot box board chairman or member to commit such offences shall be punishable by the penalty specified in the present paragraph aggravated by a third or half.

Those who compel a board to commit the offences specified in the third paragraph shall be punishable by the penalty specified in the third paragraph aggravated by one third or half.

If such an offence involves provision or promise of benefit to a board member, then the penalty specified in the fourth paragraph for those who provide or promise benefits to board members shall be applicable aggravated by one third or half.

IGNORING COMPLAINTS OR OBJECTIONS

ARTICLE 165 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) If a board chairman or member refuses to record an objection or complaint that must be recorded under the present law lodged by a person eligible for objection or complaint, then such board chairman or member shall be punishable by prison terms from one month to one year and by fines from 1,000 TL to 5,000 TL.

OBJECTIONS LODGED WITH BAD FAITH

ARTICLE 166 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Those who lodge an objection against an election return or against the eligibility of an elected person without ground and with bad faith shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to six months and by fines from 5,000 TL to 20,000 TL.

COMPLAINTS LODGED WITH BAD FAITH

ARTICLE 167 – Those who lodge an objection or complaint with bad faith for the purpose of hindering the proper conduct of the casting of votes or preventing election boards from properly fulfilling their functions or delaying the results of the counting of votes shall be punishable by the penalty specified above.

MISCELLANEOUS

ARTICLE 168 – (Amended: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who tear, alter or remove posted copies of returns showing the results of the elections shall be punishable by prison terms from six months to one year.

OFFENCES AGAINST NOTICES ISSUED BY OFFICIAL AUTHORITIES

ARTICLE 169 – (Amended: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who prevent declarations and notices issued by authorities in relation to the elections from being announced or posted or tear or alter or remove them shall be punishable by prison sentences from three months to six months.

NON OBSERVANCE OF THE PROHIBITION ON ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

ARTICLE 170 – (Amended: 2839 – 10.6.1983) Those who sell or serve or consume in public places alcoholic drinks and those who sell or buy alcoholic drinks in bulk or in bottle in whatever manner on the election day while the casting of votes is underway shall be punishable by prison terms from three months to six months.

CARRYING WEAPONS

ARTICLE 171 – (Amended: 2234 – 10.5.1979) Those who breach the prohibition on carrying weapons set in Article 79 shall be punishable by a fine from 2,500 TL to 10,000 TL, the provisions of Law no. 6136 being reserved.

NON OBSERVANCE OF INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

ARTICLE 172 – Those who fail to observe the prohibitions specified in the article on the procedures of investigation shall be punishable by prison terms from six months to one year.

CHAPTER EIGHT
PROCEDURES AND MODES OF PURSUIT

TIME OF INVESTIGATION

ARTICLE 173 – Investigation on election offences specified in the present law committed by people in charge of election operations on the election day or during the 24 hours preceding the election day shall be carried out on the day following the day when the election records that must be drawn up by the board in question are drawn up.

No investigation shall be carried out about a voter except f or capital offences and judgements that must be executed and warrants of arrest issued by the relevant authority and offences that are within the jurisdiction of courts of first instance under Law no. 3005 where no delay is tolerable for reasons such as loss of evidence. No administrative or fiscal measure shall be taken on the election day and during the three days that precede the election day that would deprive a voter from his/her freedom or from his/her ability to cast his/her vote.

EXECUTION OF GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 174 – Those who have committed one of the offences mentioned in the present law or those who must be punished under general provisions for an offence related to the execution of the present law shall be investigated under general provisions regardless of their title or position.

Investigations and preliminary investigations on provincial governors shall be conducted by a Chief Prosecutor. The preliminary investigation may be conducted by a member of the Supreme Court of Appeals appointed by the President of the Supreme Court of Appeals, if necessary. The case shall be tried by the criminal department of the Supreme Court of Appeals which has jurisdiction under general provisions.

The Chief Prosecutor may have the preliminary investigation conducted by his/her assistants. However, it shall be the Chief Prosecutor who will decide whether a public action should be commenced or whether no investigation is needed.

During the preliminary investigation, it shall be that member of the Supreme Court of Appeals who is authorised to conduct the preliminary investigation who will issue the warrant for an arrest, release, police record or search requested by the Chief Prosecutor.

Objections against a decision by the Chief Prosecutor for the rejection of an investigation and against decisions delivered by the Supreme Court of Appeals member under the paragraphs above during the preliminary investigation shall be examined and resolved by a Department Director of the Supreme Court of Appeals to be appointed by the president of the Supreme Court of Appeals.

For those decisions delivered by the Supreme Court of Appeals member during the preliminary investigation that must be ratified, the authority to ratify such decisions shall be the appointed Department Director of the Supreme Court of Appeals.

Objections against decisions ratified by such Department Director of the Supreme Court of Appeals shall be examined and resolved by the President of the Supreme Court of Appeals.

Preliminary investigations on county governors shall be conducted by the Chief Prosecutor and an investigating magistrate of the nearest provincial central town. Decisions for the commencing of a public action and for a final investigation shall also be taken by such Chief Prosecutor and investigating magistrate. The case shall be tried by a court of that jurisdiction. The provisions of the Law on Judges are reserved.

The concerned parties and political parties may commence a public action or become an intervening party in a public action by lodging a complaint under the Law on Criminal Procedures.

PROCEDURE OF INVESTIGATION

ARTICLE 175 – For offences mentioned in the present law other than those which are liable to criminal penalties, investigations shall be conducted under Law no. 3005 provided that the time-limits specified in Article 173 are observed.

RIGHT TO ANSWER DURING ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 176 – Real persons and legal entities shall have the right to answer express or implied statements published in a periodical against them touching their dignity or affecting their interests during the elections under Article 19 (amended by Law no. 143) of Law no. 5680 and to ask for a correction.

Such real persons or legal entities may approach the police court magistrate to give their answer or to ask for correction. Their text can also be notified by cable provided that the cost is covered by the applicant.

However, after the seven days preceding the election day, the concerned shall be content with the judgement of the police court magistrate.

Those who do not abide by the provisions above shall be subject to the provisions of the Press Law.

CASES THAT CANNOT BE TRIED BY A BOARD MEMBER JUDGE

ARTICLE 177 – A judges who is the chairman or a member of a provincial or county board of elections shall not try cases related to election offences committed in his/her election district.

In the event there are no other judges in that district to try such cases or no court can be formed, such cases shall be tried by a court or judge on duty of the same rank in the closest jurisdiction.

EVIDENCE VALUE OF RETURNS

ARTICLE 178 – For offences mentioned in the present law other than those which are liable to criminal penalties, reports drawn up by boards shall be considered valid unless they are proved to be forged.

ELECTION OFFENCES

ARTICLE 179 – For the purposes of the present law an election offence means offences committed by people appointed by the present law to conduct election operations in relation to their function and by others who breach the provisions of the present law.

DURATION OF TRIAL

ARTICLE 180 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) (Amended: First paragraph: 2839 – 10.6.1983) A public action arising from an election offence must be commenced within two years from the date the elections are over. Otherwise no investigation shall be commenced.

The time span between the date of the application for commencing a public action or, in the case of offences that require a warrant, for obtaining a warrant or ruling and the date such warrant or ruling is issued shall not be included in the duration of a trial. However, such time span shall not exceed three months.

CHAPTER NINE

MISCELLANEOUS

ELECTION EXPENSES

ARTICLE 181 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) The expenses of the Supreme Board of Elections and of the General Directorate of Voters' Registers and all other election expenses shall be covered out of the general budget. The necessary funds shall be shown in a special program in the budget of the Ministry of Justice.

The chief authority to issue orders of payment out of these funds shall be the Chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections. The Chairman may delegate its powers to the General Directorate of Voters' Registers. The General Director may also be allowed to delegate these powers.

For expenses that must be made on the spot, the authority to issue payment orders shall be the chairman of the concerned provincial or county board of elections.

REMUNERATION

ARTICLE 182 – (Amended: 3403 – 10.9.1987) (Amended: First Paragraph: 4448 – 26.8.1999) The daily fees to be paid to chairmen and members of election boards and to other persons to be employed for the elections and to civil servants and other employees to do overtime work for the elections, to political party representatives and to other people to be employed shall be determined by the Supreme Court of Elections, provided that the daily fee does not exceed the amount to be found by multiplying 600 (six hundred) by civil servants' monthly pay coefficient. No tax shall be imposed on those fees.

The travel expenses of those who have to leave their residence place shall be covered under the Law on Travel Expenses of Civil Servants.

PROCUREMENT AND ADVANCE MONIES

ARTICLE 183 – (Amended: 2234 – 17.5.1979) Procurements and leasing for the operations to be conducted under the present law shall not be subject to Law no. 2490. No announcement shall be required.

For all sorts of election expenses, justice authorities of provinces and counties may pay up to 100,000 TL in advance money to their paymasters subject to the approval of the chairman of the concerned provincial or county board of elections. Monies may also be paid to top up the advance to the above-mentioned limit as the initial amount is spent.

The Supreme Board of Elections may increase the amount of the allowable advance money.

(Added paragraph: 3377 – 23.5.1987) The operations of procurement, service, manufacturing, lease and transportation to be conducted for the operations under the present law shall not be subject to Law no. 2886 on Government Tenders. No announcement shall be necessary.

STORAGE OF ELECTION MATERIALS

ARTICLE 184 – Seals of election boards, forms relating to election operations, printed books and other materials shall be stored at the depository offices of the justice authorities of provinces and counties and ballot boxes and voting booths at the office of aldermen in villages and at municipalities in towns.

EXEMPTION

ARTICLE 185 – All documents to be drawn up and all applications to be made under the present law and all decisions of the election boards shall be exempt from duties.

PAPER REQUIREMENTS OF POLITICAL PARTIES

ARTICLE 186 – If political parties chose to procure their paper requirements from state-owned or state-affiliate paper mills, then the Supreme Board of Elections shall do the necessary to satisfy such requirements. The cost of the paper shall be covered by the concerned political party.

The requests of the Supreme Board of Elections concerning paper supply shall be satisfied promptly and with priority by the concerned authorities and paper mills.

OPERATIONS TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE SUPREME BOARD OF ELECTIONS

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 1 – (533 – 13.2.1965) (Amended: 1700 – 24.3.1973) The Supreme Board of Elections shall have announcements broadcast through the radio channels of the government at news times and at other suitable times in order to rouse the consciousness of the people about the elections and to inform them about the formation of permanent voters' registers, first voters' census and registration operations, inscription operations to be repeated, audits, the forming, posting and removing of ballot box voters' lists, objections and additional registration operations, distribution of voter information cards and casting of votes and other issues and the time-limits for such matters.

Provincial and county boards of elections shall also issue announcements of that nature trough customary means of communication.

The radio channels of the government shall not charge the Supreme Board of Elections and provincial and county boards of elections for such announcements.

In order to assure that each and every voter is registered and figures in the ballot box voters' lists and that all of the voter information cards are distributed, the Supreme Board of Elections shall issue notices to let the concerned know what is to be done. Chairmen of provincial and county boards of elections shall assure that their employees receive the required training and fulfil their duties properly in accordance with the notices of the Supreme Board of Elections.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 2 – (656 – 14.7.1965) All matters that must be announced by virtue of law or due to a necessity by the Supreme Board of Elections through the radio and all matters that must be announced by virtue of law or due to a necessity by provincial boards of elections on the local radio channels of their province shall be announced through radio channels free of charge (for radio channels broadcasting in Turkey).

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 3 – (656 – 14.7.1965) For counties and elections to be designated by the Supreme Board of Elections, during the period from the beginning of the elections to the drawing up of election returns, the regular functions of the judges who act as chairmen of county boards of elections shall be fulfilled, in part or in whole, by other judges to be appointed by the Higher Board of Magistrates. The extent and manner of such appointment shall be determined by the concerned judge.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 4 – (2234 – 17.5.1979) The Supreme Board of Elections may change the dead-lines and time-limits for applications for candidature, examination of candidatures, objections against candidatures, resolution of objections, provisional and definitive announcement of candidates and other similar election operations and other dead-lines and time-limits specified by the present law, if it finds it necessary. Such decision of the Supreme Board of Elections shall be promptly announced together with the reason for the change. The power to change dead-lines and time-limits shall not be exercised in cases where candidates presented by political parties are involved.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 5 – (3270 – 28.3.1986) The rules concerning the form of ballot papers to be used for referendums for amendments to the Constitution, procedures of

casting of votes, counting and sorting out of votes, determination of invalid votes, recording of results, summing up operations by provincial and county boards of elections and by the Supreme Board of Elections for referendums and the broadcasting of the opinions of the proponents and the opponents of the subject of the referendum in the Grand National Assembly and the opinion of the President of the Republic and the results of the referendum through The Turkish Radio and Television Institution channels shall be determined by the Supreme Board of Elections taking into account the relevant provisions of the present law.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 6 – (3330 – 19.2.1987) The prohibitions specified in the present law shall not be applicable to ceremonies relating to National Days, provinces' Liberation Days, ceremonies for welcoming and seeing-off the President of the Republic and ceremonies for welcoming and seeing off visiting foreign heads of state and heads of government and ministers and opening days of judicial years and university scholar years and inaugurations of international congresses and fairs and natural disasters.

During the period from the beginning day of the electioneering activities to the day following the election day, the prohibitions established in Articles 63 and 64 shall not apply to the customary economic, commercial and marketing activities of departments, institutions and entities mentioned in Article 62 and of establishments subject to the Banking Law which must be conducted pursuant to law or to administrative decisions unless such activities are intended to influence the votes of citizens.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 7 - (3617 - 15.3.1990) If deputies and civil servants who have stood for elections or primary elections for local government elections or general elections or mid-term elections (except for armed forces officers and non-commissioned officers) fail to be elected or to become a candidate, they may return to the position they had left or to another position which is equivalent to their previous position as far as remuneration is concerned, provided that they apply within one month following the announcement of the results of the elections by the Supreme Board of Elections.

PART TEN

PROVISIONAL ARTICLES

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 1 - (It was about the formation of the Supreme Board of Elections and of provincial and county boards of elections within three to seven days and is now void.)

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 2 - (It was about the expenses of the 1961 elections and is now void.)

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 3 - The provisions which require that to stand for elections political parties must have set up their organisation six months ago and already held their first general assembly meeting shall not be applicable to the first elections of each kind to be held after the announcement of the present law, the provisions of Articles 19 and 23 requiring that political parties must have set up their organisation in at least 15 provinces and their counties being reserved.

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 4 - (It was about the present law's being also applicable to the referendum on the adoption of the Constitution and is now void.)

PROVISIONAL ARTICLES 5 - 10 (Added: 347 - 16.8.1961) (They were about the 1961 elections and are now void).

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 11 - (Added: 1700 - 24.3.1973) Chairmen of county boards of elections may exercise their power granted in Article 33 to recruit personnel for the permanent voters' registers offices until the necessary staff is recruited for these offices as provided for in Article 29. The mode of fulfilling these functions shall be determined by the Supreme Board of Elections.

In counties where appointments of chiefs and subordinates to permanent voters' registers offices have remained incomplete for whatever reason, the paragraph above shall apply. (*)

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 12 - (Added: 2181 - 20.2.1979) The audit on voters registers that should be conducted in March and April of 1979 by virtue of Article 35 and following articles amended by Law no. 1700 dated 24.03.1973 of Law no. 298 dated 26.04.1961 has been postponed for one month. This audit shall be conducted, exclusively for 1979, only in the (C) group provinces where the elections for the renewal of 1/3 of the Senate of the Republic and

in the provinces where mid-term elections shall take place for vacant seats in the Senate of the Republic and in the Grand National Assembly. (*)
PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 13 - (Amended: 2234 - 17.5.1979) The office term of the members of the Supreme Board of Elections who are holding office as of the date of promulgation of the present law shall expire in January 1981. In the first week of December 1981, three members from each of the Supreme Court of Appeals and from the Supreme Council of State shall be selected by drawing of lots. The drawing of lots shall be conducted by the chairman of the Supreme Board of Elections in the presence of the members of the Supreme Board of Elections. The names of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman shall not be included in the drawing of lots.
(*) These provisional articles were assigned the numbers (11) and (12) by Article 2 of Law no. 2234 dated 17 May 1979.
In the first week of January 1981, elections shall be held at the general assemblies of the Supreme Court of Appeals and of the Supreme Council of State for the three seats vacated due to the drawing of lots mentioned above.
The elections for the rest of the seats shall be held in January 1983.
PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 14 - (Added: 17.5.1979) In the last week of the one month period following the promulgation of the present law, provincial boards of elections shall be formed using the method described in Article 15 and county boards of elections using the method described in Articles 18 and 19. These boards shall be renewed in the last week of the month of January one year after the month of January which follows the promulgation of the present law.
PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 15 - (Added: 17.5.1979) According to Article 28 and following articles of Law no. 298 amended by Law no. 1700 dated 24.03.1973, those of the staff employed by the permanent voters' registers offices attached to the Ministry of Justice which have not been found suitable by the General Directorate for transfer to the General Directorate of Voters' Register shall be appointed to other posts and their current posts shall be cancelled.
PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 16 - (Added: 17.5.197) The initial registration of voters shall take place on the first Sunday following the sixtieth day after the promulgation of the present law.
The information obtained from this initial registration of voters shall be arranged in the form of lists by the relevant boards of elections and kept by county boards of elections. The execution of Article 17 shall be based on the information contained in these lists.
PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 17 - (Added: 2234 - 17.5.1979) Regarding the voters' registers to be formed by the General Directorate of Voter's Registers pursuant to the provisions of the present law and the preparation and publication of ballot box voters' lists to be prepared in accordance with these registers, priority shall be given to provinces where elections for the renewal of the 1/3 of the Senate of the Republic and mid-term elections for the Senate of the Republic and for the Grand National Assembly shall be held on 14 October 1979 and election districts where local government elections shall be held during the period before the publication of initial ballot box voters' lists.
2. Depending on the dates of the initial registration and of the elections specified in the first paragraph, if the Supreme Board of Elections establishes that it is not possible for the General Directorate of Voters' Registers to prepare and announce the registers and ballot box voters' lists relating to the election districts where these elections will be held due to shortage of time, a) for the 1/3 third renewal elections for the Senate of the Republic and the mid-term elections for the Senate of the Republic and for the Grand National Assembly to be held on 14 October 1979, ballot box voters' lists to be prepared on the basis of the lists prepared using the information from the initial registration conducted under Article 16 by county voters' register offices shall be used.
These ballot box voters' lists shall be applicable for all of the local government elections to be held in all election districts attached to these provinces.
b) The rules of the preparation of the ballot box voters' lists for municipality elections, municipality council and provincial council elections, village and quarter alderman elections, aldermen council and aldermen committee elections to be held during the period from the

date of the promulgation of the present law to the preparation of the ballot box voters' lists as specified in paragraph (a) above and the rules of lodging objections against the preparation of lists containing the information obtained during the initial registration mentioned in paragraph (a) and the posting and removing of these lists, their being partitioned into ballot box voters' lists and their becoming definitive shall be determined by the Supreme Board of Elections.

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 18 - (Added: 3330 - 19.1.1987) For elections and for referendums to be held before the voters' registers have been completely prepared and become functional as specified in Article 28, the rules of registration in the register, drawing up of publicly displayed voters' lists for alderman areas, their being publicly displayed, the duration of their public display, the partitioning of ballot box voters' lists, their becoming definitive and the updating of the voters' registers and the procedures and time-limits for objections shall be determined by the Supreme Board of Elections taking into account the characteristics of the elections.

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 19 - (Added: 3330 - 19.2.1987) Renewal elections shall be held in January 1990 for the vacant seats of those people who have been appointed to the Supreme Board of Elections in January 1985.

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 20 - (Added: 4265 - 5.6.1997) Renewal elections shall be held in January 2000 for the vacant seats of those people who have been appointed to the Supreme Board of Elections in January 1993.

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 21 - (Added: 26.8.1999) Three people shall be selected from the members elected to the Supreme Board of Elections from the Supreme Court of Appeals and from the Supreme Council of State in January 1993 and January 1996 and three people shall be selected from those who have replaced them by drawing of lots. The chairman and deputy chairman shall not be included in the drawing of lots. For these six members, a renewal election shall be held in the second half of January 2001. The renewal election for the other 5 members shall be held in January 2004.

PROVISIONAL ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 1 - (2812 - 5.4.1983) At the first general elections to be held in accordance with the Law on Political Parties and the Law on Elections to be prepared in accordance with the Constitution, the voters' registers prepared for the referendum on the adoption of the Constitution pursuant to Law no. 2687 dated 01.07.1982 shall be used after an updating to be carried out in accordance with the relevant provisions of the same law.

For the updating, those who have not cast their votes at the Constitution referendum shall be determined and the registers shall be posted at alderman zones and those who do not figure in these lists and those who are registered with a mistake in their name shall be allowed to apply to be registered or to have their name corrected.

The date of posting the lists and the period during which the lists will stay posted and objections, documents required for objections, the date when registers become definitive, the mode of registering previously non registered voters and the conditions of registering them shall be determined by the Supreme Board of Elections.

Of those who do not figure in the voters' registers, those who have completed their age of 21 before the date the voters' registers become definitive shall be registered upon their application. Those whose exact birth date is not recorded at the public register office shall be assumed to have been born on the last day of their birth year.

PROVISIONAL ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 2 - (2812 - 5.4.1983) Those who have abstained from being registered by registration employees although they are eligible for voting according to Article 8 of Law no. 2687 dated 01.07.1982 shall not be pursued for that offence if they apply while the registers are being posted under the present law and any criminal conviction related thereto shall become null and void with all of its consequences. However, fines already collected shall not be refunded.

Those who have themselves registered that way shall be eligible for voting at general elections, mid-term elections and local elections and referendums.

PROVISIONAL ADDITIONAL ARTICLE 3 - (2812 - 5.4.1983) Those who have not cast their vote at the referendum although they are eligible for casting their vote and registered in the

voters' registers for a legal or actual excuse but failed to notify such excuse within the time-limit or saw their excuse rejected for lack of evidence or non observance of time-limit shall not be subject to the prohibitions specified in the first paragraph of Article 12 of Law no. 2707 dated 24.09.1982 if they apply to the relevant county board of elections before the removal of posted voters' lists and present their excuse.
The rules governing the examination of such applications shall be determined by the Supreme Board of Elections.
PROVISIONAL ARTICLE - (3377 - 23.5.1987) The Supreme Board of Elections shall determine the election districts within one month from the date of promulgation of the present law.

CHAPTER ELEVEN
FINAL PROVISIONS
LAWS ABOLISHED

ARTICLE 187 - Law no. 5545 on Parliamentary Elections and Laws nos. 6272, 6438, 7037 and 7053 amending the mentioned law have been abolished.

EFFECTIVE DATE

ARTICLE 188 - The present law shall come into force on the day it is published.

EXECUTION

ARTICLE 189 - The present law shall be executed by the Cabinet.