

REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

LAW

ON

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Chapter 1

General Provisions

Article 1. The Basis for Elections of the President of the Republic

The President of the Republic shall be elected by the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania for a five-year term on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage and by secret ballot.

Article 2. The Right to Candidacy for the Office of President of the Republic

Any person who is a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania by birth, who has lived in Lithuania for at least the past three years, who has reached the age of 40 prior to the election day, and who is eligible for election to Seimas member may be elected President of the Republic.

Time spent outside the boundaries of the Republic of Lithuania, if spent in connection with political exile or imprisonment for political convictions made prior to 11 March 1990, or with work at diplomatic services or other assignments of the State of Lithuania, shall be included in a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania's period of residence in Lithuania (Amended 5 January 1993).

The same individual may be eligible to the office of the President of the Republic for not more than two terms.

Article 3. Universal Suffrage

Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania who on the day of the election are 18 years of age or over shall have the right to vote for the President of the Republic. Citizens who have been declared incapable by court shall not participate in elections.

Any direct or indirect abridgment of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania's right to vote on the grounds of their sex, race, nationality, language, descent, social status, religion, convictions, or views shall be prohibited.

Article 4. Equal Suffrage

Every citizen of the Republic of Lithuania who has the right to vote for the President of the Republic shall have one vote in the election.

Article 5. Direct Election of the President of the Republic

Voters shall elect the President of the Republic without mediators.

Article 6. Secret Ballot

Voters shall vote in person and by secret ballot. Controlling the will of the voters in the election shall be prohibited.

Article 7. Making Public the Preparation and Execution of Elections

State institutions and electoral committees shall prepare and conduct the elections of the President of the Republic publicly. Public notice must be given of all events (meetings, sessions) related to the organisation of elections at least 12 hours prior to the commencement of the event.

The electoral committees shall inform the citizens about their work;
the formation of electoral districts (apylinke); the composition of electoral committees, their location and business hours;
the lists of voters; the results of candidate registration to the post of the President of the Republic; and the voting and election results.

The state mass media shall inform the public about the preparation and execution of the elections of the President of the Republic.

Representatives of all mass media shall have the right to unrestricted participation in all events organised by the electoral committees, attendance of all electoral committee sittings, as well as the acquisition of information from the electoral committees concerning the preparation and execution of the elections.

Article 8. Expenses Related to the Preparation and Execution of the Elections

The expenses related to the preparation and execution of the elections of the President of the Republic shall be covered by the State.

Chapter 2

Organisation of Elections

Article 9. Formation of Electoral Districts

The territories of towns and districts of the Republic shall be divided into electoral districts. The division of every town and region into electoral districts as well as their number and size shall be established by a town or regional electoral committee not later than 37 days prior to the election day.

At least 5 thousand electors must reside in the territory of an electoral district.

Within 5 days from the approval of electoral districts, the town or regional electoral committee shall inform the voters of

the boundaries of every electoral district, as well as its quarters and place of polling.

Article 10. Electoral Committees

The elections of the President of the Republic shall be organised and conducted by:

- 1) the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic;
- 2) the town and district electoral committees; and
- 3) the electoral committees of electoral districts.

Members of electoral committees may not be candidates to the office of President of the Republic or agents of such candidates.

Article 11. The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall be the supreme institution for the organisation of elections of the President of the Republic.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall be made up by the Seimas at least 45 days prior to the election day.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall be composed of:

the Committee chairperson;

three persons who have higher legal education and who shall be chosen by lot from six candidates nominated by the Minister of Justice; and

three persons who have higher legal education and who shall be chosen by lot from six candidates nominated by the Lithuanian Society of Lawyers.

The Minister of Justice and the Lithuanian Society of Lawyers may propose more candidates to the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic.

The drawing of lots during a sitting of the Seimas shall be organised by the Seimas Chairperson.

Political parties, public political movements, and public political organisations of ethnic minorities which have received the mandates of the Seimas members in multi-candidate electoral areas shall each have the right to nominate one candidate to the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic from this one list of candidates (joint list) presented in a multi-candidate electoral area prior to the formation of the Electoral Committee. The Seimas may not reject proposed candidates.

The Seimas shall appoint the chairperson of the Electoral Committee for the Elections of the President of the Republic. The chairperson of the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic as well as members of the Committee who were appointed by lot shall suspend their membership in political parties, public political movements and public political organisations if they are members of such organisations, and may not take part in the activities of said organisations or movements or carry out their instructions while working in the Committee. The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall elect the deputy chairperson and secretary of the Committee during its sitting. The deputy chairperson shall be elected from among the members who do not represent political parties, public political movements or public political organisations of ethnic minorities.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall be formed for the period of presidential elections and shall lose its powers from the moment the President of the Republic takes oath.

Article 12. The Powers of the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall:

- 1) distribute forms for the collection of voters' signatures;
- 2) register candidates to the office of the President of the Republic and issue them presidential candidacy certificates;
- 3) establish the samples and forms of ballot-papers and other documents used during the elections, as well as packages, stamps, and samples for their completion, and the procedure for sealing ballot-papers;
- 4) manage funds allocated by the State for the elections of the President of the Republic;
- 5) supervise the implementation of this Law;
- 6) consider complaints concerning decisions of town or regional electoral committees and electoral committees of electoral districts;
- 7) establish and publicize the results of the elections of the President of the Republic;
- 8) issue the certificate of the President of the Republic to the elected candidate;
- 9) hand over the documents of the elections of the President of the Republic to the State Archive for keeping; and
- 10) execute other powers provided for in this Law.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic may not interpret the provisions of this Law. If it is necessary to do so, the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall appeal to the Seimas for the amendment of this Law. The Seimas shall consider questions submitted by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic according to the procedure of particular urgency.

Article 13. Formation of Town and Regional Electoral Committees

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall form town and regional electoral committees at least 40 days prior to the day of elections of the President of the Republic.

Town and regional electoral committees shall be composed of: individuals who reside or are employed in the said town or region having higher legal education and whose candidatures are proposed by the Minister of Justice;

individuals who reside or are employed in the said town or region having higher legal education and whose candidatures are proposed by the Lithuanian Society of Lawyers (Amended 19 January 1993).

The Minister of Justice and the Lithuanian Society of Lawyers may also propose more candidates.

Political parties, public political movements and public political organisations of ethnic minorities which have received the mandates of the members of the Seimas from the list of candidates (joint list) presented in the multi-candidate electoral area shall each have the right to nominate two representatives from this single list of candidates (joint list)

to town and regional electoral committees (Amended 19 January 1993). The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic may not reject said candidates. In the event that candidates are not nominated, the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic may additionally approve candidates to the Committee who have been proposed by the Minister of Justice and the Lithuanian Society of Lawyers in their place.

The chairpersons of town and regional electoral committees shall be appointed by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic. During the first sitting, town and regional electoral committees shall elect a deputy chairperson and a secretary of the committee. According to the procedure prescribed by this Article, more than one town electoral committee having the powers provided for in Article 14 of this Law may be formed in the cities of Vilnius and Kaunas.

Article 14. The Powers of Town and Regional Electoral Committees

Town and regional electoral committees shall:

- 1) divide the territory of the town or region into electoral districts and establish their boundaries as well as the numeration of the electoral districts;
- 2) inform the voters who reside in the respective town or region of the boundaries of electoral districts, the quarters of the town or regional electoral committee, the working hours and the polling place;
- 3) supervise the implementation of this Law in the respective town or region;
- 4) draw up the records of vote calculation in the town or region;
- 5) consider appeals against decisions and actions of the electoral committees of electoral districts and adopt decisions concerning them; and
- 6) exercise other powers provided for in this Law.

Article 15. Formation of Electoral Committees of Electoral Districts

Electoral committees of electoral districts shall be formed by the town and regional electoral committees at least 36 days prior to the day of the elections of the President of the Republic. Electoral committees of electoral districts shall be composed of proposed candidates of political parties, public political movements and public political organisations of ethnic minorities which have received mandates of the Seimas members from the list of candidates (joint list) presented in the multicandidate electoral area. These political parties, public political movements and public political organisations of ethnic minorities shall have the right to propose as many as 3 candidates to the electoral committee of the electoral district. If candidates are not proposed, town and regional electoral committees may proportionally enlarge the amount of representatives of the indicated political powers.

Town and regional electoral committees may not reject candidates who have been indicated in this Article and who have been proposed to electoral committees of electoral districts.

Chairpersons of electoral committees of the electoral districts shall be appointed by the town and regional electoral committees. Electoral committees of electoral districts shall elect a deputy chairperson and a secretary of the electoral

committee during their first sitting.

Article 16. The Powers of Electoral Committees of Electoral Districts

Electoral committees of electoral districts shall:

- 1) receive lists of voters from the administrative bodies of local governments, correct and approve them;
- 2) register voters on the list of voters of the electoral district if the conditions provided for in part 2 of Article 24 of this Law are present;
- 3) consider complaints concerning errors made in voter lists;
- 4) submit the list of voters of the electoral district to the town or regional electoral committee at least 25 days prior to the day of the elections;
- 5) hand voting certificates to voters or distribute them in some other way;
- 6) guarantee the furnishing of voting premises and ballot-boxes in accordance with the requirements of this Law;
- 7) organise voting in the electoral district on the day of elections;
- 8) calculate votes and draw up the records therefor;
- 9) consider appeals and adopt decisions related thereto of voters and observers of their respective electoral district on issues concerning the preparation of elections, the organisation of voting, and the calculation of votes and the drawing up of records thereof; and
- 10) exercise other powers provided for in this Law.

Article 17. Organisation of Electoral Committee Work

Sittings of electoral committees shall be valid provided that at least three-fifths of the members of the committee are in attendance. Decisions made by the committee shall be adopted by open, majority vote. In the event of a tie vote, the committee chairperson's vote shall have power of decision. Committee members not in agreement with a decision shall have the right to state a different opinion in writing, which shall then be appended to the minutes of the meeting.

Upon the completion of voting, the electoral committees of electoral districts as well as town or regional electoral committees may only adopt decisions related to the drawing up of records of the calculation of votes.

All electoral committee sittings shall be public. The right to participate therein shall be granted to observers appointed by political parties and public political movements, candidates who have nominated themselves to the office of the President of the Republic, as well as agents of candidates to the office of the President of the Republic and representatives of all mass media. No individual shall have the right to organise non-public sittings of electoral committees.

While exercising their duties in electoral committees, chairpersons and members of such committees shall be prohibited from any form of campaigning or attempts to influence the voters' will in any other way. Individuals who have violated this Law may be dismissed from the committee.

Article 18. Appeals Concerning Decisions of Electoral Committees which are Adopted prior to the Completion of Voting

All political parties and political organisations which have nominated a presidential candidate, as well as agents of candidates to the office of the President of the Republic may appeal against the decisions of electoral committees according to the following procedure:

- 1) for decisions of electoral committees of electoral districts - to the town or regional electoral committee;
- 2) for decisions of town or regional electoral committees - to the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic; and
- 3) for decisions of the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic - to the Supreme Court.

Appeals must be considered within 48 hours of the time the appeal is submitted. Non-working days shall also be included in this period. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be final.

Article 19. Appeals Concerning Decisions of Electoral Committees which are Adopted after the Completion of Voting

All political parties and political organisations which have nominated presidential candidates, as well as the agents of candidates to the office of the President of the Republic, may appeal to the town or regional electoral committees against the decisions of electoral committees of electoral districts concerning the drawing up of records of the calculation of votes not later than within 24 hours of their adoption.

Such appeals must be considered not later than within 24 hours. Town or regional electoral committees, in considering appeals concerning the drawing up of records of the calculation of votes, may recount the ballot-papers presented by the electoral committee of an electoral district, provided at least three-fifths of the town or regional electoral committee members are present. Upon establishing an arithmetic mistake or incorrectly calculated valid or invalid ballot-papers, the committee may amend the records of the calculation of votes. Town or regional electoral committees shall not have the right to declare invalid the records of the calculation of votes drawn up by electoral committees of electoral districts.

The decisions of the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic may be appealed against to the Supreme Court not later than within 2 days of their adoption, and must be considered not later than within 48 hours. This term shall also include non-working days.

The decision of the Supreme Court shall be final and its execution shall be binding upon the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic. While considering appeals against the decisions of town or regional electoral committees concerning the drawing up of records of the calculation of votes in a respective town or region, the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic may re-count the ballot-papers presented by the town or regional electoral committee.

Upon establishing an arithmetic mistake or incorrectly calculated ballot-papers, the Committee may amend the entries in the records of the calculation of votes of the respective town, region or electoral district. The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall not have the right to declare invalid town or regional records of the calculation of votes.

Article 20. Assistance for Electoral Committees

State institutions, firms, offices and organisations and their officials must assist electoral committees in exercising their powers, and must furnish them with necessary information. State institutions, firms, offices and organisations and their officials must consider requests submitted by electoral committees and give the electoral committees a justified response not later than within 3 days.

Electoral committees may employ the required number of personnel for assistance work. Local governments and State institutions and organisations must provide electoral committees with premises and equipment for the preparation and execution of elections.

Article 21. Remuneration for Electoral Committee Members

Chairpersons and members of electoral committees shall be paid salaries for their work in electoral committees in accordance with rates submitted by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic and approved by the Government. Chairpersons and members of electoral committees who are employed in firms, offices and organisations, and who are not receiving wages due to their involvement in electoral committee activities shall be paid by the State an amount not exceeding their average monthly salary.

Article 22. Changing the Members of Electoral Committees

Chairpersons and members of electoral committees may be dismissed from their posts in the committee by the institution which approved the composition of the committee. As necessary, new chairpersons or members of electoral committees shall be appointed according to the procedure established by this Law.

Chapter 3

Voter Lists

Article 23. Compiling Voter Lists

For the execution of elections, voter lists of electoral districts shall be compiled. Said lists shall be compiled by the appropriate administrative institutions of local governments, shall be signed by their chief officers, and shall be delivered to the electoral committees of electoral districts at least 35 days prior to the day of election.

Electoral committees of electoral districts shall review and approve voter lists. Approved voter lists shall be signed by the chairperson and secretary of the electoral committee.

Article 24. General Procedure for Registering Citizens in Voter Lists

Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania who have the right to vote and who, at the time the voter list is compiled, are permanently residing on the territory of that particular electoral district, shall be included in the district's voter

list. In the event that a voter changes his permanent place of residence after the compilation of lists begins, he shall be registered in the voter list of the new place of residence. In such a case, the voter must submit an application to the electoral committee of the latter territory concerning his or her registration in the voter list at least 30 days prior to the election. The electoral committee of the electoral district must see to it that the voter's name is struck from the voter list of the electoral district of the former permanent place of residence.

Article 25. Registration of Voters in Only One List

Each voter may only be registered in one voter list. This shall be checked by the town or regional electoral committees and the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic. Upon establishing that a voter's name is registered in the voter lists of several electoral districts, town or regional electoral committees as well as the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall address the voter within 20 days of the election day, requesting that he announce within 5 days which electoral district's voter list he wishes to be registered in. If the voter fails to make this choice within the established period, the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall include the voter's name in the voter list of the electoral district where, in their opinion, it would be more convenient for the voter to vote, and shall inform the voter thereof within 3 days. Such decisions of the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic may not be appealed.

Article 26. Public Announcement of Voter Lists

At least 20 days prior to the election, the town or regional electoral committees shall announce publicly the compilation of voter lists and shall provide conditions for the voters to get acquainted with the lists, indicating the time and place for the voters to implement this right.

Article 27. Reviewing Voter Lists

Any voter may submit remarks concerning inaccuracies in a voter list to the electoral committee of an electoral district. The electoral committee of the electoral district must consider the remarks and adopt a decision thereon within 48 hours of the receipt thereof. The decisions of electoral committees of electoral districts may be appealed against to the town or regional electoral committee within 48 hours of the acceptance thereof. The town or regional electoral committee must adopt a relevant decision within 48 hours of the receipt of the complaint. The town or regional electoral committee's decision shall be final.

Article 28. Appeals Concerning Restoration of the Right to Vote

A voter may submit complaints to the electoral committee of an electoral district concerning errors made in the voter list which hinder the voter from implementing his or her right to vote. The electoral committee of the electoral district must

consider the complaint and adopt a decision not later than within 24 hours of the receipt thereof.

The decision of the electoral committee of the electoral district may be appealed against within 48 hours to the district court, which shall consider the complaint within 24 hours. The district court's decision shall be final. Remarks as well as complaints which are submitted later than 24 hours of the opening of elections shall not be considered.

Article 29. Town and Regional Voter Lists

Town and regional voter lists shall be made at least 25 days prior to the day of election by the town or regional electoral committees according to the lists of voters of electoral districts submitted by the electoral district committees.

Article 30. List of Voters of the Republic of Lithuania

The list of voters of the Republic of Lithuania shall be compiled by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic according to the lists of voters submitted by the town or regional electoral committees as well as the lists of voters residing abroad at least 20 days prior to the day of the election.

Chapter 4

Nomination of Candidates to the Office of President of the Republic

Article 31. Nomination of Candidates to the Office of the President of the Republic

Individual persons may nominate themselves to the office of President of the Republic.

Political parties and political organisations may nominate and support candidates to the office of President of the Republic. The number of candidates to the office of President of the Republic shall not be limited. The nomination of candidates shall begin the next day after the formation of the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic, and shall end at least 40 days prior to the day of elections.

Article 32. Declaration of an Individual's Participation in the Elections as a Candidate to the Office of President of the Republic

Individuals who have been nominated or who have nominated themselves to the office of President of the Republic must declare their nomination to the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President at least 40 days prior to the election.

If an individual is nominated by a political party or political organisation to the office of President of the Republic, this decision of theirs shall also be presented in writing.

Documents confirming the identity of the candidate shall

also be submitted and a deposit equaling five average monthly salaries shall be paid. Having collected twenty thousand (20,000) voter signatures as provided in Article 79 of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, the total deposit shall be refunded to the individual who has paid it.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall, not later than within 3 days (including non-working days), confirm that none of the conditions indicated in Article 78 of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania which prohibit an individual to be a candidate to the office of President of the Republic are present, and shall adopt a grounded decision on whether or not to issue the individual forms with the name and surname of the candidate to the President of the Republic for the collection of voter signatures. Refusal to issue the forms for the collection of voter signatures may be appealed against to the Supreme Court not later than within 3 days, and that appeal shall be considered not later than within 72 hours of its submission. This term shall include non-working days. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be final.

Article 33. The Collection of Voter Signatures

At least twenty thousand voter signatures as prescribed in Article 79 of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania must be collected on the form for the collection of voter signatures, which shall contain the following text:

I, as a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, confirm my support for the application of

.....
.....
.....

(the person's name, surname)
to participate in the (month, day and year) elections as a candidate to the office of President of the Republic of Lithuania.

Serial No, Individual's Surname,, Name, Series and No of the Document Confirming Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, Place of Birth , Permanent Place of Residence, Signature and Date

The name and surname of the individual who has collected the signatures shall be indicated at the bottom of the page, as well as the series and number of the document confirming his citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, his permanent place of residence, and signature.

All information on forms for the collection of signatures shall be filled out by the voters themselves. Voters may sign for each candidate to the office of President of the Republic, but may only sign for each candidate once.

Forms for the collection of voter signatures shall be

directly issued by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic to individuals who have announced in writing their participation as candidates in the elections of the President of the Republic and, upon the request of these persons - to persons indicated by them.

Article 34. Registration of Candidates to the Office of the President of the Republic

At least 25 days prior to the elections, individuals who have been nominated or who have nominated themselves as candidates to the office of the President of the Republic must submit voter signature collection forms containing at least twenty thousand voter signatures to the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic which issued the said forms.

Individuals who have been nominated or who have nominated themselves as candidates to the office of President of the Republic may submit a certificate of their health condition to the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic. The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall announce such certificates through mass media.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall confirm that the forms for the collection of voter signatures have been completed correctly not later than within 24 hours of the receipt thereof. In the event that it is discovered that a citizen has signed for the same candidate more than once, none of that voter's signatures shall be counted. Signatures of persons who did not record all of the necessary information or who recorded incorrect information shall also be annulled.

If, after all invalid votes are cast off, the candidate to the office of President of the Republic has the signatures of at least twenty thousand of voters, the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall register the individual as a candidate to the office of President of the Republic not later than within 3 hours.

Refusal of the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic to register an individual as a candidate to the office of President of the Republic may be appealed against to the Supreme Court not later than within 3 days (including non-working days), and the Court must consider the appeal within 48 hours. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be final.

Individuals who have been nominated or who have nominated themselves as candidates to the office of President of the Republic shall acquire the status of candidate to the office of President of the Republic upon their registration as candidates to the office of President of the Republic with the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall officially announce the list of all individuals who have been registered as candidates to the office of President of the Republic no later than 22 days prior to the day of the elections, and shall issue certificates of candidacy to the office of President of the Republic within at least 3 hours of the announcement thereof.

The campaign for elections of the President of the Republic shall commence on the day of the official announcement of the list of candidates to the office of President of the Republic.

Article 35. Agents of Candidates to the Office of President
of the Republic

Individuals who have been registered as candidates to the office of President of the Republic shall have the right to have their own agents. Candidates to the office of President of the Republic shall submit their list of agents to the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic, which shall, not later than within 24 hours, issue agent certificates (indicating the name and surname of the candidate) to the agents of the candidates to the office of President of the Republic.

On the instruction of the candidate to the office of President of the Republic, an agent of the candidate to the office of President of the Republic shall have the right to represent the candidate in meetings with voters and in the mass media, to raise funds for financing the elections, and to carry out other instructions of the candidate to the office of President of the Republic which do not contradict laws.

Candidates to the office of President of the Republic may at any time recall their agents in writing. An agent shall be deemed recalled from the moment the declaration thereon is submitted to the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic.

Article 36. Observers of the Elections of the President
of the Republic

All political parties and political organisations which have nominated an individual as a candidate to the office of President of the Republic as well as candidates to the office of President of the Republic shall have the right to appoint in writing observers to each electoral committee. Observer of the Elections of President of the Republic certificates shall be issued immediately. The certificates shall be issued by:

- 1) the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic - to observers who have been appointed to observe the activities of the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic as well as the activities of town or regional electoral committees; and
- 2) town or regional electoral committees - to observers who have been appointed to observe the activities of the electoral committees of electoral districts.

Election observers shall have the right to be present at the sittings of electoral committees whose activities they have been appointed to observe and to demand that the chairperson and members of the electoral committee observe this Law.

Protests presented by observers in writing shall be attached to the records and decisions of the electoral committee. In cases provided for in this Law and according to the procedure established therein, observers shall have the right to appeal against the decisions of electoral committees. Organisations as well as candidates to the office of President of the Republic who have appointed observers shall have the right to recall the observer in writing at any time. The observer shall be deemed recalled from the moment the declaration of recall is submitted to the electoral committee which issued the observer's certificate to the individual.

Chapter 5

Guarantees of the Activities of Candidates to the Office of President of the Republic

Article 37. The Right of Candidates to the Office of President of the Republic to Speak at Meetings or through Mass Media

After the official publication of the list of candidates, the candidates to the office of President of the Republic shall have equal right to speak at voter meetings or at any other meetings, gatherings, or conferences, and to utilize state mass media and publicize their election programme. Heads of state institutions of power and government must assist the candidates to the office of President of the Republic to organise meetings with voters and to obtain necessary information, with the exception of confidential information.

Article 38. The Right of Candidates to the Office of President of the Republic to be Relieved from Work or Service Duties During the Election Campaign

Upon his or her request, a candidate to the office of President of the Republic may be relieved from work or service duties for the period of the election campaign but for no longer than 2 months. During this period, the candidate shall be paid two average monthly wages from State resources.

Article 39. The Immunity of the Person of a Candidate to the Office of President of the Republic

During the election campaign and directly following the elections, candidates to the office of President of the Republic may not be found criminally responsible or arrested, and may not be imposed with administrative penalties by court for their actions during the election campaign of the President of the Republic.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall see to the protection of candidates to the office of President of the Republic.

Article 40. Amenability for the Violation of the Republic of Lithuania Law on Presidential Elections

Individuals who obstruct, by means of violence, fraud, threats, or any other way, the implementation the right of voters to elect the President of the Republic, and the organisation of campaigning, as well as the members of electoral committees and other officials who have falsified documents of the election, intentionally counted the votes incorrectly, or violated voting secrecy, or this Law in any other way shall be responsible according to the laws of the Republic of Lithuania. Legal actions shall be also brought against individuals who have announced or publicized in any other way false information concerning a candidate to the office of President of the Republic, or who have interfered with a candidate's meeting with voters.

Chapter 6

Campaigning

Article 41. The Basic Principles of Campaigning

Political parties and political organisations, as well as citizens and candidates to the office of President of the Republic may begin campaigning from the day the campaign of the elections of the President of the Republic starts to which the provisions of this Chapter shall be applicable.

Campaigning may be conducted in any form or manner provided that they do not contradict the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Lithuania. The commencement of campaigning shall be declared by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic.

Article 42. Conditions and Procedure for the Use of Mass Media

Candidates to the office of President of the Republic shall all have equal opportunity to use State mass media free of charge for the purpose of campaigning. The actual duration and time of radio and television programmes used for each candidate's campaign for the elections of the President of the Republic shall be established by the Electoral Committee for the Elections of the President of the Republic in coordination with the radio and television administration and set in a manner which ensures that principals of equality are maintained among the candidates to the office of President of the Republic.

Candidates to the office of President of the Republic may use the time allotted to them in State mass media themselves or may permit political parties or political organisations indicated by them, as well as to their agents or other specified individuals, to conduct campaigning at the fixed time.

Only the special account of the Elections of the President of the Republic shall limit campaigning in the commercial mass media.

All disputes concerning campaigning shall be settled by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic, which shall base itself on the principle of equality of rights to candidates to the office of President of the Republic. Upon the demand of a candidate to the office of President of the Republic or the candidate's agent, mass media which has publicised compromising material about the said candidate to the office of President of the Republic must publicise the response of the candidate or his agent at least 5 days prior to the day of election.

Article 43. Prohibition of Officers of State Institutions from Influencing the Will of the Voters

During election campaigns, officers of State institutions and employees of the mass media shall be prohibited from using their official duties for campaigning or otherwise influencing

the will of voters.

If such individuals are candidates to the office of President of the Republic, they may only use the mass media in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 42 of this Law. If they are required, in order to fulfill their duties, to announce important news to the mass media, they may only do so at a press conference.

Article 44. Financing Campaigning

Campaigning shall be financed from State resources as well as from resources raised by political parties and political organisations, and citizens and candidates to the office of President of the Republic and which shall be accumulated in special accounts for Elections of the President of the Republic in the Savings Bank of Lithuania as well as its branches.

Candidates shall be paid from State resources on an equal basis for the time on State radio and television which is allotted to them, the printing of campaign poster, and the publishing of election programmes. The utilisation of funds allocated for campaigning shall be controlled by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President and by the Savings Bank of Lithuania. The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic and the Savings Bank of Lithuania shall publicise the report concerning utilisation of State resources for campaigning in the press not later than within 15 days after the election of the President of the Republic.

Candidates to the office of President of the Republic, as well as the elected President of the Republic, shall announce all funds which were received and utilised for the elections (indicating their sources) in the press not later than within 30 days after the election of the President of the Republic.

Article 45. Prohibition of Campaigning on the Day of Election

Campaigning shall be prohibited during the 24 hours prior to the commencement of elections and on the day of elections. During this time, no campaign posters, with the exception of those which are issued by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic, may be put up within a 50 metre radius of the voting places.

Chapter 7

Preparatory Activities for the Organisation of Elections

Article 46. Ballot-papers

For elections of the President of the Republic, each voter shall be presented with a ballot-paper which shall contain the name and surname of each candidate to the office of President of the Republic. Candidates to the office of President of the Republic shall be listed in alphabetic order.

Article 47. Delivery of Ballot-papers

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of

the Republic shall deliver ballot-papers and envelopes to town and regional electoral committees at least 10 days prior to the day of election. Town and regional electoral committees shall recount the received ballot-papers and envelopes and shall draw up a report of the receipt thereof.

Town and regional electoral committees shall deliver ballot-papers to the electoral committees of electoral districts at least one day prior to the day of elections. The electoral committees of electoral districts shall recount the ballot-papers and draw up a report of the receipt thereof.

Town and regional electoral committees shall deliver ballot-papers and envelopes to post offices at least 7 days before the day of election. At diplomatic missions of the Republic of Lithuania and on ships which are sailing under the national flag of the Republic of Lithuania, voters must be provided with free access to ballot-papers and envelopes for voting by mail at least 10 days prior to the day of election.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall be responsible for the issue, calculation and delivery of ballot-papers and envelopes within the indicated period.

Article 48. Voter Certificates

Voter certificates shall be delivered to each voter at least 10 days prior to the day of election. Voter certificates shall be sent or distributed in another way by the electoral committees of electoral districts which shall indicate this on the voter list. If a voter's certificate is not delivered through the fault of the electoral committee of an electoral district, it must be issued immediately upon the voter's demand.

Upon written application, a voter may be issued a duplicate voter's certificate.

Voter certificates shall contain:

- 1) the number of the town or regional electoral committee;
- 2) the number of the electoral committee of the electoral district;
- 3) the voter's sequence number in the electoral district voter list;
- 4) the voter's name and surname;
- 5) the voter's permanent place of residence; and
- 6) the address of the polling place.

Chapter 8

Voting

Article 49. Time and Place of Voting

Voting shall take place on the day of election from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the polling place designated by the electoral committee. Voters shall only vote in the electoral district in whose voter list their names have been included. Votes received by mail shall be valid only in the electoral district in whose voter list the name of the voter has been included.

Article 50. Preparation of Polling Places

Requirements for the preparation of polling places shall be established by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic.

Voting booths must be set up in such a way that nobody is able to see the voter who is inside. The text of this Law must be accessible to each voter in all electoral districts. No other political actions except the organisation of elections and voting may be conducted in the polling place.

Article 51. Commencement of Voting

On the day of election, the polling place shall be opened only if at least 3/5 of the members of the electoral committee of the electoral district are present. Then, the chairperson of the electoral committee, together with other members of the electoral committee, shall make sure that the ballot-box is empty and shall seal it. Having checked that the polling place has been furnished without violating the established requirements, the chairperson of the electoral committee of the electoral district shall enregister the total number of the received ballot-papers into the record of the calculation of votes, distribute the ballot-papers and voter lists among the members of the electoral committee, register the number of ballot-papers distributed among each electoral committee member into the record of the calculation of votes, and open the voting place, thereby proclaiming the commencement of the elections.

Article 52. Voter Identification

Upon arriving at the polling place, voters shall present to a member of the electoral committee of the electoral district their voter certificates as well as their passports or other documents certifying their identity and citizenship, and shall sign in on the voter list. Voter certificates shall not be returned to the voters. A ballot-paper shall be handed to the voter only after the voter has signed. In voting by mail, there shall be an entry made on the voter certificate concerning the issue of a ballot-paper, and the voter certificate shall be returned to the voter.

It shall be prohibited to issue a voter another voter's ballot-paper. Members of electoral committees who violate this provision shall be liable by law.

Article 53. Voting Procedure

Having been handed the ballot-paper, the voter shall go into a voting booth and mark the ballot personally. The voter may only enter the voting booth alone. The only exceptions shall be in cases provided for in part 5 of this Article.

On the ballot-paper, the voter shall mark the name of the candidate for whom he is voting. Voters shall personally cast their marked ballot-papers into the ballot-box. Upon the request of a voter, faulty ballot-papers shall be exchanged for new ones by the decision of the electoral committee of the electoral district. The chairperson of the electoral committee shall cross out the faulty ballot paper in ink (ball-point pen) and shall sign it. The electoral committee secretary and one of the members shall also sign the faulty ballot-paper. Faulty ballot-papers shall be kept separately.

Voters who are physically unable to mark their ballot-papers

themselves or cast them into the ballot-box may designate another person to mark the ballot-paper and cast it into the ballot-box for them. Electoral Committee chairpersons or members, as well as election observers, shall be prohibited from carrying out such actions for voters.

Article 54. Voting by Mail

Voting by mail shall be possible at post offices during business hours beginning 7 days before the election and ending one day before the election if the voter is put on the voter list of that town or region, and ending two days before election if the voter is not put on the voter list of that town or region.

Expenses related to voting by mail shall be covered by the State.

The head of the post office shall be responsible for the organization of voting by mail and shall be responsible for the issue and collection of ballot-papers and voucher envelopes during voting by mail.

An officer(s) shall be appointed responsible for the issue and collection of ballot-papers and voucher envelopes during voting by mail.

Post offices must provide a place for voters to mark their ballot-papers and put them into voucher envelopes without interference.

Voting by mail shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure established in Articles 52 and 53 of this Law, with the exception of the procedure for casting ballot-papers into the ballot-box. The voter shall be given envelopes together with the ballot-paper for voting by mail.

The voter shall put the marked ballot-paper into the voucher envelope and seal it. Then, together with the voter's certificate, the voter shall put the voucher envelope into an outer envelope and seal that as well. The post office seal shall be stamped on the outer envelope.

Envelopes for voting by mail shall be addressed to the electoral committee of the electoral district in the list of voters wherein the voter is registered.

Outer envelopes, voucher envelopes and ballot-papers shall be delivered at least 2 days prior to the election by a postal worker to the homes of voters who are not able to move. The list of voters who are unable to move shall be compiled at least 7 days before the election by the electoral district committee in accordance with documents submitted in writing by town and regional social care and welfare institutions.

Post officials, members of electoral committees or other persons may not bring outer envelopes, voucher envelopes and ballot-papers to the homes of voters who are not registered on the list of immobile voters.

Voters may:

- 1) hand the sealed outer envelope (with the voters certificate, voucher envelope and ballot-paper in it) to a post office official;
- 2) hand the sealed outer envelope to the postal worker who delivered the election documents; or
- 3) put the sealed outer envelope into a postbox.

Article 55. Voting in Diplomatic Missions

Voting may take place in diplomatic missions (consulates) of the Republic of Lithuania during working hours. At least 4 hours must be allotted for this every day. Voting days (at least 5) for each diplomatic mission (consulate) shall be established by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The list of diplomatic missions (consulates) in which voting shall take place shall be compiled by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic in conjunction with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The head of the diplomatic mission (consulate) shall be responsible for the organization of voting.

Article 56. Voting on Ships Sailing under the Lithuanian State Flag

Voting shall take place on board ships which sail under the State flag of Lithuania if the ship leaves a port of the Republic of Lithuania at least 6 days prior the election and does not return before the election day, or if there are other circumstances which make it impossible for a crew member or board passenger having the right to vote to vote in his or her own electoral district or by mail.

The list of ships in which voting shall take place and the time of voting in each ship shall be established by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic in cooperation with competent services and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in such a manner which makes it possible for each citizen of the Republic of Lithuania who is on board a ship to vote. The captain or assistant captain of the ship, being citizens of the Republic of Lithuania, shall be responsible for the organization of voting on board the ship.

Article 57. The Procedure for Voting in Diplomatic Missions of the Republic of Lithuania and on Board Ships which are Sailing under the State Flag of Lithuania

The procedure for voting in diplomatic missions of the Republic of Lithuania and on ships sailing under the State flag of Lithuania shall be established by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic.

Article 58. Voting in Medical, Social Care and Welfare Institutions

Special post offices designated for voting shall be established in medical, social care and welfare institutions. Patients of such institutions who are able to move shall vote personally in the polling place in accordance with the procedure established in Article 54 of this Law.

Patients and inmates of medical and welfare institutions who are not able to move shall be visited by officials of the special post office who shall be approved by the town or regional electoral committees. The person voting must, in conditions which are created for his or her privacy, personally mark the ballot-paper and put it into a voucher envelope. If necessary, the voter may be aided by a person whom he or she trusts (with the exception of post office and medical and welfare institution employees, and election observers).

Under the instruction of the head of the medical, social

care or welfare institution, it may be prohibited to disturb patients who are in bad health for the purpose of voting. Such an instruction shall be obligatory to electoral committees.

It shall also be prohibited to disturb a person for the purpose of voting if, in the procedure established by the Ministry of Health Care, a commission of doctors has drawn a conclusion that, at the time of voting, the person is incapable of understanding the essence of his or her actions and of controlling them due to chronic mental disease, feeble-mindedness, or temporary mental disorder.

Article 59. Voting in Military Units

Special post offices designated for voting shall be established in units of the national defence system and internal service. In accordance with opportunities, the chief officers of military units shall provide conditions for servicemen to vote in the electoral districts of their permanent place of residence.

Article 60. Voting in Places of Imprisonment

Special post offices designated for voting shall be established in places of imprisonment. Heads of places of imprisonment may allow sentenced persons to vote in electoral districts of their permanent place of residence in the procedure established by laws.

Chapter 9

Calculation of Votes and Establishment of Voting Results

Article 61. Calculation of Voucher Envelopes and Ballot-Papers in Post Offices

Post office heads shall return unused envelopes and ballot-papers to town and regional electoral committees one day before the elections.

Registration of voucher envelopes and ballot-papers shall be conducted by the head of the post office in a journal specially designated for that purpose in accordance with the procedure established by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic.

The post office shall deliver envelopes containing ballot-papers marked by voters to electoral committees of electoral districts on the day of election, but not later than 2 hours before the closing of the election. The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall conduct the registration of voucher envelopes and ballot-papers in the Republic.

Article 62. Calculation of Ballot-Papers in Electoral Districts

Upon the closing of a polling place, the chairperson of the electoral committee of the electoral district, in the presence of at least $\frac{3}{5}$ of the members of the electoral committee, shall close and seal the ballot-box slot, collect unused ballot-papers from each member of the electoral committee of the electoral

district, record the number of unused ballot-papers in the vote calculation record, count them publicly, and check, according to signatures in the voter list, that no ballot-papers have been handed in unlawfully.

Unused and faulty ballot-papers shall be counted publicly by the electoral committee, annulled by cutting off the upper right corner, and put into envelopes specially designated for this purpose which shall thereafter be sealed. The number of unused and faulty ballot-papers shall be entered in the vote calculation record.

Article 63. Calculation of Votes in Electoral Districts and Registration of Voters who Have Voted

The electoral committee of the electoral district, in the presence of at least $\frac{3}{5}$ of its members, shall inspect the ballot-box of the electoral district to: ensure that the seals have not been broken and that there is no other evidence which indicates that it could have been opened or that ballot-papers could have been removed in any other way. The committee, in the presence of at least $\frac{3}{5}$ of its members, shall decide if the ballot box has been tampered with. If the committee decides that the ballot-box was tampered with, an act shall be drawn up about this and votes shall not be calculated.

Upon the ascertainment that the ballot-box has not been tampered with, the box shall be opened and the votes shall be calculated. Votes shall be calculated in such a way that this procedure and ballot-papers marked by voters can be observed by all persons present during the calculation of votes. The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall establish the concrete procedure for the calculation of votes.

Upon ascertainment that the ballot-box was not tampered with and in the presence of at least $\frac{3}{5}$ of the members of the committee as well as observers, the box shall be opened, all ballot-papers shall be placed on tables on which there are no other documents and writing-materials, and the votes shall be counted.

The number of the voters of the electoral district shall be established according to the voter list of the electoral district. The number of voters who have been handed ballot-papers shall be established according to the voter lists testifying the receipt of the ballot-paper. The number of voters who have voted in the electoral district shall be established according to the number of ballot-papers found in the ballot-box of the electoral district. The number of voters who have participated in the elections shall be established according to the number of ballot-papers found in ballot-boxes of the electoral districts and the number of ballot-papers received by mail.

Upon finding more ballot-papers in the ballot-box than were handed to the voters, the committee shall take measures to clarify the reason.

The results of the vote calculation shall be entered in the vote calculation records.

Article 64. Registration of Voters who have Voted by Mail and the Calculation of their Votes

After the calculation of ballot-papers found in the ballot-box, ballot-papers received by mail shall be calculated in the

following procedure:

- 1) the chairperson of the electoral committee of the electoral district shall present, unopened, all outer envelopes received by mail. Their number shall be entered in the vote calculation record;
- 2) outer envelopes shall be opened one at a time;
- 3) voter certificates shall be taken out of the outer envelopes and checked against the voter list of the electoral district, and the voucher envelopes shall be stamped with the seal of the electoral district. If the person on the voter certificate is not on the voter list, if the voter has already signed the voter list indicating that he or she has already voted in the electoral district, if another envelope for voting by mail has been received from the same voter, if there is no voter certificate in the outer envelope, or if there is more than one voucher envelope in the outer envelope, the seal shall not be affixed and the ballot-paper in the envelope shall be considered invalid. This fact must be noted on the voucher envelope;
- 4) in the voter list of the electoral district, a special record of the receipt of the elector's vote shall be made by the surname of the voter whose vote has been received by mail;
- 5) the sealed voucher envelope shall be cast into the ballot-box prepared according to the established requirements; and
- 6) when all envelopes received by mail have been gone over in this way, and upon opening the unsealed voucher envelopes, the votes received by mail shall be calculated according to the requirements of Article 63. If there is more than one ballot-paper in the voucher envelope, all ballot-papers in the envelope shall be considered invalid.

If only one sealed voucher envelope is in the electoral district (committee), it, in order to protect the privacy of voting, shall not be opened, but shall be handed over to the senior electoral committee, which shall enter the results of the voting in its vote calculation record.

Article 65. Vote Calculation Records in Electoral Districts

A vote calculation record shall be drawn up in every electoral district. It shall include:

- 1) the number of voters in the electoral district;
- 2) the number of ballot-papers received from the town or regional committee;
- 3) the number of ballot-papers delivered to each member of the committee, the number of ballot-papers delivered to voters, the number of voters' signatures, the number of voter certificates, and the number of unused ballot-papers;
- 4) the number of unused ballot-papers;
- 5) the number of voters who have voted in the polling place of the electoral district;
- 6) the time that the ballot-box is opened;
- 7) the number of invalid ballot-papers found in the ballot box;
- 8) the number of valid ballot-papers found in the ballot box;
- 9) the number of votes found in the ballot-box which have been separately cast for each candidate to the office of President of the Republic;
- 10) the number of envelopes received by mail and the number of sealed voucher envelopes;
- 11) the number of invalid ballot-papers received by mail;
- 12) the number of valid ballot-papers received by mail;
- 13) the number of votes received by mail for each candidate to the office of President of the Republic;

14) the total number of voters who participated in the elections in the electoral district;
15) the total number of invalid votes in the electoral district;
and

16) the total number of votes cast for each candidate to the office of President of the Republic.

If more ballot-papers are found in the ballot-box than it has been delivered to voters, this shall be entered in the vote calculation record, indicating the number of extra ballot-papers which were found.

The vote calculation record of the electoral district shall be signed by the chairperson and members of the electoral committee of the electoral district. After that the observers shall sign the record. Their observations and the opinions of the members of the committee shall be attached to the record and shall be an inseparable part thereof.

Article 66. Invalid Ballot-papers

Invalid ballot-papers shall be:

- 1) ballot-papers which are not of the established sample;
 - 2) ballot-papers which are sealed with the seal of the wrong electoral district;
 - 3) ballot-papers on which more than one candidate to the office of President of the Republic are marked by the voter; and
 - 4) ballot-papers on which the voter has not marked any of the candidates to the office of President of the Republic.
- The decision to declare a ballot invalid shall be made by the electoral committee of the electoral district.

Article 67. Presentation of Electoral District Vote Calculation Documents to Town and Regional Electoral Committees

All ballot-papers, including invalid and unused ballot-papers, and voucher envelopes, vote calculation records, voter lists and other election documents shall be put into a package and sealed in accordance with the procedure established by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic. The package shall be delivered to the town or regional electoral committee within 6 hours of the closing of voting.

The Electoral Committee for the Elections of the President of the Republic and the Ministry of Internal Affairs must ensure the safety of the transportation of election documents as well as of the persons transporting them.

Article 68. The Calculation of Votes in Town and Regional Electoral Committees

Town and regional electoral committees shall begin calculating votes when all vote calculation records from all electoral districts are received.

Article 69. Town and Regional Vote Calculation Records

According to the electoral district vote calculation records, ballot-papers, and other election documents, the town and regional electoral committees shall establish:

- 1) the number of voters who have participated in the town or regional elections, which shall equal the number of voters who have voted in the town or regional electoral districts;

2) the number of invalid ballot-papers in the town or region which shall equal the number of invalid ballot-papers in the town or regional electoral district;

3) the number of ballot-papers valid in the town or region, which shall equal the number of ballot-papers valid in the town or regional electoral district; and

4) the number of votes cast for each candidate to the office of President of the Republic. This number shall equal the sum of votes received in the electoral districts separately for each candidate to the office of President of the Republic.

These data shall be entered in town and regional vote calculation records, which shall then be signed by the chairperson and members of the respective town or regional electoral district.

Article 70. Presentation of Town and Regional Vote
Calculation Records to the Electoral Committee for
Elections of the President of the Republic

Town and regional electoral committees shall put all documents received from the electoral districts, the calculation records of the electoral districts, the town or regional vote calculation record and other documents into special packages, and shall seal these packages and deliver them within 36 hours of the closing of voting to the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic.

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic may begin to establish the election results only after the vote calculation records of the electoral committees of all towns and regions, as well as other documents indicated in the first part of this Article have been received.

According to the vote calculation records of the town and regional electoral committees and the vote calculation records in diplomatic missions, the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall establish:

1) the number of voters of the Republic of Lithuania;

2) the number of voters who participated in the elections;

3) the number of invalid ballot-papers;

4) the number of valid ballot-papers; and

5) the number of votes cast for each candidate to the office of President of the Republic.

Considering complaints filed in the procedure established by this Law, the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic may recount ballot-papers and, upon the establishment of errors in their calculation, may correct entries in vote calculation records. The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic may not consider invalid vote calculation records of the electoral districts or town or regional electoral committees due to errors found in vote calculation records.

Upon the establishment that gross violations of this Law were committed during voting or that the document forgery had a decisive influence on the results of the election of the President of the Republic, the Electoral Committee for the Elections of the President of the Republic may consider the results of the elections to the office of the President of the Republic invalid.

A candidate to the office of President of the Republic shall be considered elected if during voting for the first time in which at least half of all voters participate, he or she receives more than half of the votes of all voters participating in the elections. If less than half of all voters participated in the

elections, a candidate shall be considered elected when he or she receives the most, but no less than one-third of votes of all voters.

If during the first voting round none of the candidates get the required majority vote, a repeat vote shall be held within 2 weeks of the election day in the procedure established by this Law between the two candidates who received the most votes in the first voting round. In this case, the candidate who gets the majority of votes shall be considered elected.

If no more than two candidates participate in the first voting round and neither of them get the required number of votes, a repeat elections for the office of President of the Republic shall be held within 3 months of the day of the elections in the procedure established by this Law.

Article 71. Participation of Observers in the Calculation of Votes and the Establishment of Election Results

Observers of political parties and political organizations which have nominated candidates to the office of President of the Republic, observers appointed by persons who have nominated themselves as candidates to the office of President of the Republic, and representatives of all mass media may participate in the calculation of votes in electoral districts and town and regional electoral committees, as well as in the establishment of election results in the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic.

Observers shall have the right to make remarks and claims to electoral committees concerning violations of this and other laws of the Republic of Lithuania, but they must not hinder the work of electoral committees. Observers shall have the right to make written protests which must be added to the electoral committee records and decisions and, together with other election documents, must be delivered to the senior electoral committee.

Article 72. Publication of Election Results

The final results of elections of the President of the Republic shall be publicized by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic within 4 days of the elections.

The results of repeat elections of the President of the Republic shall be publicized by the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic within 4 days of the day of the repeat elections.

Article 73. Certificate of the President of the Republic

The Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall issue a certificate of the President of the Republic to the elected President of the Republic within 3 hours of the publication of the election results.

Article 74. The Keeping of Documents Concerning the Elections of the President of the Republic

After the closing of elections of the President of the Republic and within 20 days of the end of the term established in this Law for the consideration of complaints against its decisions, the Electoral Committee for Elections of the President of the Republic shall deliver records and voter lists of the

electoral districts and town and regional electoral committees to the State Archives to be held for an unspecified period of time.

ALGIRDAS BRAZAUSKAS

Acting President
Republic of Lithuania

Vilnius
22 December 1992
No.I-28
