

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 196
 2 INTRODUCED BY L. HELLEGAARD, M. MALONE, J. SCHILLINGER, S. GIST, S. ESSMANN, . DURAM, L.
 3 SHELDON-GALLOWAY, F. SMITH, T. MOORE, . KNUDSEN, B. MERCER, J. HINKLE, M. BINKLEY, A.
 4 REGIER, K. SEEKINS-CROWE, F. NAVE, R. MARSHALL, B. KEENAN, J. READ, J. BERGSTROM, K.
 5 BOGNER, B. PHALEN, B. BEARD, L. DEMING

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 7 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE PROCEDURE FOR THE COUNTING OF VOTES;
 8 AMENDING SECTION 13-15-101, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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 10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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 12 **Section 1.** Section 13-15-101, MCA, is amended to read:

13 **"13-15-101. Votes to be publicly counted -- return forms.** (1) Any official vote count must be open
 14 to public observation and continue without adjournment until it is completed, and the result must be publicly
 15 declared.

16 (2) Immediately after all the ballots are counted by precinct, the election judges shall copy the total
 17 votes cast for each candidate and for and against each proposition on the return forms furnished by the election
 18 administrator.

19 (3) The election judges shall immediately display one of the return forms at the place of counting
 20 and return a copy to the election administrator. Both forms must be signed by all the election judges completing
 21 the count."

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 23 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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