

AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS; REQUIRING DEPOSITS FOR CERTAIN  
RECOUNTS OR RECHECKS TO BE DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY OF  
STATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 1-14-15 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,  
Chapter 48, Section 1) is amended to read:

"1-14-15. RECOUNTS--RECHECKS--COST OF PROCEEDINGS. --

A. An applicant for a recount shall deposit with the proper canvassing board or, in the case of an office for which the state canvassing board issues a certificate of nomination or election, with the secretary of state fifty dollars (\$50.00) in cash, or a sufficient surety bond in an amount equal to fifty dollars (\$50.00), for each precinct for which a recount is demanded. An applicant for a recheck shall deposit with the proper canvassing board or, in the case of an office for which the state canvassing board issues a certificate of nomination or election, with the secretary of state ten dollars (\$10.00) in cash, or a sufficient surety bond in an amount equal to ten dollars (\$10.00), for each voting machine to be rechecked.

B. The deposit or surety bond shall be security for the payment of the costs and expenses of the recount or recheck in case the results of the recount or recheck are not

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sufficient to change the results of the election.

C. If it appears that error or fraud sufficient to change the winner of the election has been committed, the costs and expenses of the recount or recheck shall be paid by the state upon warrant issued by the secretary of finance and administration supported by a voucher of the secretary of state, or shall be paid by the county upon warrant of the county clerk from the general fund of the county, as the case may be.

D. If no error or fraud appears to be sufficient to change the winner, the costs and expenses for the recount or recheck shall be paid by the applicant. Costs shall consist of any docket fees, mileage of the sheriff in serving summons and fees and mileage of precinct board members, at the same rates allowed witnesses in civil actions. If error or fraud has been committed by a precinct board, they shall not be entitled to such mileage or fees. " \_\_\_\_\_

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