

49.26 Commissioner to decide method of voting counting of ballots.

1. In all elections regulated by this chapter, the voting shall be by ballots printed and distributed as provided by law, or by voting machines meeting the requirements of chapter 52.
2. When voting machines are available for an election precinct, the commissioner shall determine in advance of each election conducted for a city of three thousand five hundred or less population or any school district in which voting occurs in that precinct whether voting there shall be by machine or paper ballot. If the commissioner concludes, on the basis of voter turnout for recent similar elections and factors considered likely to affect voter turnout for the forthcoming election, that voting will probably be so light as to make preparation and use of paper ballots less expensive than preparation and use of a voting machine, paper ballots shall be used.
3. In counties in which automatic tabulating equipment is available, the commissioner shall determine in advance of each election whether the ballots will be counted by the automatic tabulating equipment or by the precinct election officials. The commissioner may use ballots and instructions similar to those used when the ballots are counted by automatic tabulating equipment.

[S13, § 2754; C24, 27, § 4203; C31, 35, § 4216-c15; C39, § **4216.15**; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, § 277.15; C75, 77, 79, 81, § 49.26]

97 Acts, ch 170, § 28