

as near as may be in width, depth, and length, strapped and secured on each edge and corner with iron or brass, so as to prevent it from being easily broken, and shall have a wooden lid which shall be fastened with brass or iron hinges and a good lock, and there shall be in the lid a slit large enough to admit a single folded ballot at one time, and the sides of the box shall be of clear plate glass not less than one-eighth of an inch in thickness. As soon as the polls are opened, and immediately before any ballots are received by the judges, they shall open every ballot box, used or to be used, and permit all persons present to examine such ballot box and every part thereof, so that they may be satisfied as to the structure thereof and that said boxes are empty. The boxes shall then be locked and the key delivered to one of the judges, and shall not be again opened until the closing of the polls; and until such closing each box shall be kept constantly in sight of all persons entitled to be present, and shall be so placed that the voter offering his ballot, and the judges and clerks and all persons entitled to be present, may conveniently see every ballot deposited therein.

1892, ch. 55, sec. 161T.

284. Hereafter all ballots to be used and cast in any election to be held in the city of Hagerstown and the several wards thereof, shall be printed and distributed at the expense of the said city of Hagerstown; the word election in this section shall embrace all voters upon questions submitted to the vote of the people, but not primary elections.

1892, ch. 55, sec. 161U.

285. Any convention as hereinafter defined, held for the purpose of making nominations to public office, and also registered voters to the number hereinafter specified, may nominate candidates for public officers to be filled by election within the city of Hagerstown, or any part or parts thereof, a convention within the meaning of this act is an organized assemblage of delegates representing a political party which at the last general election before the holding of such convention, polled at least one per cent. of the entire vote cast in the city of Hagerstown, or ward for which the nomination is made; nominations may also be made by means of primary elections, without the intervention of any convention by any party which polled said proportion of the entire vote of the city of Hagerstown at the last preceding general municipal election.

1892, ch. 55, sec. 161V.

286. All nominations made by any such convention, or by means of any primary convention, shall be certified as follows: There shall be in either case a certificate in writing, in which shall be stated the name of each person nominated, his residence and the office for which he is nominated, and the name of the party by which he has been nominated; if the nomination be by a convention, the certificate shall be signed by the presiding officer and secretary of the convention, and their signatures thereto shall be acknowledged by them before some officer competent to take acknowledgments of deeds; if the nomination be by means of a primary