Electoral Code of the Republic of Belarus of February 11, 2000 No. 370-Z

(with changes and additions as of 2023/02/16)

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A COMMON PART

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GENERAL PROVISIONS. BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM, CONDUCTING A REFERENDUM (PEOPLE'S VOTE)

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Relations regulated by this Code

This Code regulates the relations arising during the preparation and conduct of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, elections of delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies and from civil society (hereinafter, unless otherwise stated, elections of delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly), elections and recall of deputies of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter referred to as the House of Representatives), members of the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter referred to as the Council of the Republic), deputies of local Councils of Deputies, as well as during the preparation and conduct of a referendum (popular vote) (hereinafter referred to as the referendum), and establishes guarantees, ensuring the free expression of will of citizens of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 2. Legal basis of the electoral system, referendum

The legal basis of the electoral system and referendum is <u>the Constitution</u> of the Republic of Belarus, this Code and other acts of legislation, resolutions of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter referred to as the Central Commission).

CHAPTER 2 BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM. CONDUCTING A REFERENDUM

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Elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies are free and are held on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly are held on the basis of equal suffrage.

Elections of deputies to the House of Representatives and deputies of local Councils of Deputies are held in single-mandate electoral districts.

Elections of members of the Council of the Republic are carried out on the basis of equal and indirect suffrage by secret ballot.

The referendum is held by universal, free, equal and secret ballot.

Article 4. Universal suffrage and the right to participate in a referendum

Elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies and referendums are universal: citizens of the Republic of Belarus who have reached 18 years of age have the right to elect and participate in a referendum. Citizens of the Republic of Belarus who have reached the age of 18 have the right to participate in other electoral actions provided for by this Code and carried out by legal methods, and other actions related to the preparation and conduct of the appointed referendum. Before calling a referendum, citizens of the Republic of Belarus who have reached the age of 18 have the right to take part in the preparation and conduct of the referendum.

Citizens declared legally incompetent by a court and persons held in prison by a court sentence do not have the right to vote, to be elected, to participate in a referendum, to perform other electoral actions, or to take actions to prepare and conduct a referendum.

Article 5. Free elections and participation in referendums

Elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, participation in a referendum are free: a voter, a referendum participant personally decides whether to participate in elections, a referendum, for whom to vote in elections, what to vote for in a referendum.

Article 6. Equal suffrage and the right to participate in a referendum

Voters and referendum participants participate, respectively, in the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies and referendums on an equal basis: each voter, referendum participant has one vote.

Elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly are equal: each deputy of the regional Council of Deputies, participant in the meeting of the highest body of a civil society entity has an equal number of votes.

Elections of members of the Council of the Republic are equal: each deputy of the local Council of Deputies of the basic territorial level (hereinafter referred to as the local Council of Deputies of the basic level) has an equal number of votes.

Candidates elected to public office participate in elections on equal terms.

Article 7. Direct suffrage, the right to direct expression of will in a referendum

Elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies are direct. The President of the Republic of Belarus is elected directly by the people of the Republic of Belarus. Deputies are elected directly by citizens.

Citizens participate in a referendum on the basis of a direct expression of their will.

Article 8. Indirect suffrage

Elections of members of the Council of the Republic are indirect: members of the Council of the Republic are elected at meetings of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the base level of each region and deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies.

Article 9. Secret ballot

Voting in elections and referendums is secret: control over the expression of the will of voters and referendum participants during voting is prohibited.

Article 10. Basic principles for recalling a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic

The recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a member of the Council of the Republic, a deputy of the local Council of Deputies is carried out in compliance with the basic principles of the electoral system.

Article 11. Providing commissions for holding elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, referendums, recall of deputies

The conduct of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, referendums, and recall of deputies is ensured by commissions.

The commissions in their activities are guided by the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, this Code, other acts of legislation, and resolutions of the Central Commission.

Commissions in the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, and recall of deputies, within the limits of their powers, are independent of government bodies and are not bound by decisions of political parties and other public associations.

The decisions of the commissions, adopted within the limits of their powers, are binding on all government bodies, political parties, other public associations, other organizations, as well as citizens.

Decisions of a higher commission, taken within the limits of its powers, are binding on lower commissions.

Article 11 ¹ . Ensuring the elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly

The elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies are ensured by the presidiums of regional Councils of Deputies, as well as the Central Commission.

The elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society are ensured by the governing bodies of civil society entities, as well as the Central Commission.

Article 12. Ensuring the holding of elections and recall of members of the Council of the Republic

The elections of members of the Council of the Republic and the recall of elected members of the Council of the Republic are ensured by the presidiums of the regional, Minsk city, district, city (cities of regional subordination) Councils of Deputies and the corresponding regional, Minsk city, district, city executive committees, as well as the Central Commission.

Article 13. Transparency in the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a member of the Council of the Republic, a deputy of the local Council of Deputies

Preparation and conduct of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, deputies of the House of Representatives, members of the Council of the Republic, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, referendum, recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, member of the Council of the Republic, deputy of the local Council of Deputies are carried out openly and publicly.

Informing voters, referendum participants about the progress of preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic is carried out by the relevant commissions, local representative, executive and administrative bodies, the media, organizations and citizens in accordance with this Code.

The content of information materials posted in the media, on the official websites of the Central Commission, local executive and administrative bodies on the global computer network Internet or distributed in any other way must be objective, reliable, and must not violate the equality of candidates.

During the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies, the Central Commission, the corresponding territorial, district election commission prepares general posters with biographical data of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, as well as candidates for deputies running in one electoral district for placement at voting stations and in other designated areas. this places. The relevant commission produces information materials about candidates for President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies to send them to voters. The amount of information placed in these materials in relation to each candidate should be approximately the same. Costs for the production of general posters with biographical data of candidates and information materials about candidates are carried out at the expense of funds allocated from the republican budget for the preparation and conduct of elections.

During elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies, referendum, recall of a deputy, observers have the right to be present - representatives of political parties, other public associations, labor collectives, citizens with voting rights, foreign (international) observers, as well as representatives of the media in the manner established by the Central Commission.

Deputies of the House of Representatives, members of the Council of the Republic, deputies of local Councils of Deputies have the right to monitor the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, and recall of a deputy.

The observer has the right: attend meetings of relevant commissions; be present when ballot boxes are sealed or sealed;

be present in the voting premises on voting day from the moment the voting boxes are sealed or sealed until the end of the tabulation of voting results;

be present during early voting, voting at the location of citizens, and the recount of citizens' votes;

monitor the issuance of ballots, the progress of voting, and compliance with the voting procedure established by this Code;

submit suggestions and comments on issues of organizing voting to the chairman of the precinct commission or his deputy;

receive information about the results of vote counting and the drawing up of protocols of the relevant commissions on the results of elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy;

get acquainted with the protocols of precinct commissions on the voting results and the protocols of the relevant commissions on the results of elections, referendums, voting to recall a deputy, signed and sent to a higher commission in accordance with this Code;

make a copy of the protocol of the precinct commission on the voting results using your own resources and resources;

send appeals to the appropriate or higher commission or the prosecutor to eliminate violations of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy no later than the third day after the elections, referendum, vote on recall of a deputy.

The observer has no right:

engage in campaigning in any form;

provide candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies with any information, methodological, financial or other assistance;

create obstacles to voting;

take actions that violate the secrecy of voting;

conduct surveys of citizens who arrived to vote and voted;

fill out a ballot for a citizen at his request;

create obstacles to the normal work of commissions and voting;

be at the ballot issuing tables, booths and voting boxes;

interfere with the work of commissions.

When holding elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies, referendums, observers no later than the day preceding the day of the start of early voting, and when recalling a deputy - no later than the day preceding the day of voting on the recall of a deputy, are accredited with the relevant commissions. Observers are accredited upon presentation of a document confirming their appointment as an observer from a political party, another public association, a labor collective, citizens determined by the Central Commission, and a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus). No advance notice is required to send an observer.

The term of office of an observer begins on the day of his accreditation and ends on the day the relevant commission establishes the results of the vote count, the results or results of an election, referendum, or recall of a deputy.

The commission to which an observer is accredited has the right to deprive him of accreditation if he violates the legislation on elections, referendums, or recall of a deputy.

The commissions inform observers and foreign (international) observers about the date, time and place of their meetings.

Foreign (international) observers from foreign states and international organizations are invited to the Republic of Belarus by the President of the Republic of Belarus, the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, the House of Representatives, the Council of the Republic, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Central Commission.

Foreign (international) observers are accredited by the Central Commission. The term of office of a foreign (international) observer begins on the day of his accreditation and ends on the day the results of an election, referendum, or recall of a deputy are established.

Foreign (international) observers carry out observation in the manner prescribed by part seven of this article. Foreign (international) observers also have the right to meet with candidates, candidates' proxies, and after voting day to express their opinion on the legislation of the Republic of Belarus on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, hold press conferences and contact the media.

Foreign (international) observers do not have the right to use their status to carry out activities not related to monitoring the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, or recall of a deputy.

The Central Commission has the right to deprive a foreign (international) observer of accreditation if he violates the legislation of the Republic of Belarus or generally recognized principles and norms of international law.

The media cover the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, and the recall of a deputy or member of the Council of the Republic in accordance with the law. Representatives of the media have the right to attend meetings of commissions, in voting rooms, at meetings of regional Councils of Deputies and meetings of the highest bodies of civil society entities for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, at meetings of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies for elections of members of the Council of the Republic, as well as the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic.

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus have the right to be present at the polling station during the counting of votes. Candidates for deputies have the right to be present during the counting of votes at a polling station located on the territory of the electoral district in which they are running.

Persons who interfere with the work of commissions on the day of elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, by order of the chairmen of the relevant commissions, are removed from the voting premises.

Article 13 1. Calculation of deadlines

The time limits for preparing and holding elections, referendums, and recall of a deputy or member of the Council of the Republic, determined by this Code, are calculated in calendar days. The transfer of the last day of the term that falls on a non-working day is not carried out.

Deadlines are calculated from the date of the calendar date or event that determines their beginning, unless otherwise established by this Code.

If any action must (can) be carried out from the date of the occurrence of any event, then the first day on which this action must (can) be carried out is the calendar date of the occurrence of the corresponding event, but not earlier than the time of occurrence of this event.

If any action must (can) be carried out after the day of the occurrence of any event, then the first day on which this action must (can) be carried out is the day following the calendar date of the occurrence of this event.

If any action must (can) be carried out no later than a certain number of days or a certain number of days before the day of the occurrence of any event, then the last day or day on which this action must (can) be carried out is the day, after which the number of days specified in this Code remains until the day of the occurrence of the corresponding event.

If any action must (can) be carried out no earlier than a certain number of days before the day of the occurrence of any event, then this action must (can) be carried out within the number of days specified in this Code. In this case, the last day on which this action must (can) be carried out is the day preceding the calendar date of the occurrence of this event.

If any action must (can) be carried out no earlier than a certain number of days from the day (after the day) of the occurrence of any event, then the first day on which this action must (can) be carried out is the day following the expiration of the number of days specified in this Code from the day (after the day) of the occurrence of the relevant event.

If any action must (can) be carried out no later than a certain number of days after the day of the occurrence of any event, then this action must (can) be carried out within the number of days specified in this Code. In this case, the first day is considered to be the day following the calendar date of the occurrence of this event, and the last is the day on which the specified number of days expires.

If any action must (can) be carried out no later than a certain number of days from the date of the occurrence of any event, then this action must (can) be carried out within the number of days specified in this Code. In this case, the first day is considered to be the calendar date of the occurrence of this event, and the last is the day on which the specified number of days expires.

SECTION II

ELECTORAL DISTRICTS, VOTING SITES. LISTS OF CITIZENS HAVING THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS, REFERENDUM, VOTING ON THE RECALL OF A DEPUTY

CHAPTER 3 ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

Article 14. Constituency for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus

Elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus are held in a single electoral district constituting the entire territory of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 15. Electoral districts for the election of deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies

To conduct elections of deputies to the House of Representatives, 110 electoral districts are formed on the territory of the Republic of Belarus.

To conduct elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies, electoral districts are formed:

for elections to the regional Council of Deputies - from 40 to 60 electoral districts;

for elections to the Minsk City Council of Deputies - from 40 to 60 electoral districts;

for elections to the regional Council of Deputies - from 25 to 40 electoral districts;

for elections to the city Council of Deputies (cities of regional subordination) - from 25 to 40 electoral districts;

for elections to the city Council of Deputies (cities of regional subordination) - from 15 to 25 electoral districts;

for elections to the township and village Council of Deputies - from 5 to 11 electoral districts.

The average number of voters per electoral district for the election of deputies of the House of Representatives in the Republic of Belarus is established by the Central Commission no later than September 1 of the year preceding the year of the election of deputies on a single voting day.

Within the limits of the norms specified in part two of this article, the number of electoral districts to be formed for elections to the local Council of Deputies and the average number of voters per electoral district are established by the relevant local Council of Deputies no later than September 1 of the year preceding the year of elections of deputies on a single day voting.

The number of voters in an electoral district is determined based on the number of citizens with the right to vote who lived in the territory included in the electoral district during the last elections or referendum.

Electoral districts are formed with approximately equal numbers of voters: the deviation of the number of voters in the electoral district for the election of deputies of the House of Representatives from the average number of voters per electoral district in the Republic of Belarus, and in the electoral district for the election of deputies of the corresponding local Council of Deputies - from the average number of voters, per constituency for elections to a given local Council of Deputies, as a rule, cannot exceed 10 percent. When forming electoral districts for the election of deputies of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies, the deviation of the number of voters from the average number of voters in the electoral district is allowed by more than 10 percent, but not more than 20 percent.

An electoral district constitutes a single territory: the formation of an electoral district from territories that do not border each other is not allowed, with the exception of territories under the same administrative subordination.

The boundaries of electoral districts for elections to the regional and Minsk City Council of Deputies should not cross the boundaries of electoral districts for elections to the House of Representatives.

Lists of electoral districts indicating their names, numbers, boundaries, number of voters and locations of election commissions are published within seven days from the date of formation of these electoral districts in the print media, and are also posted on the official

websites of the Central Commission, local executive and administrative bodies, respectively. on the global computer network Internet: for elections of deputies of the House of Representatives - by the Central Commission, for elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies - by local executive and administrative bodies.

In the event of the dissolution of the House of Representatives, the local Council of Deputies, elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of the local Council of Deputies are held in the electoral districts formed during the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of the local Council of Deputies of the previous convocation.

One deputy is elected from each electoral district.

Article 16. The procedure for the formation of electoral districts for the election of deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies

Electoral districts for the election of deputies of the House of Representatives are formed by the Central Commission on the proposal of the regional and Minsk city executive committees no later than October 1 of the year preceding the year of the election of deputies on a single voting day.

Electoral districts for elections to local Councils of Deputies are formed no later than November 1 of the year preceding the year of elections of deputies on a single voting day:

to regional, Minsk city, district, city (cities of regional subordination) Councils of Deputies - by the presidiums of the corresponding local Councils of Deputies and executive committees;

to city (cities of regional subordination), township and rural Councils of Deputies - by the corresponding executive committees.

CHAPTER 4 VOTING SITES

Article 17. Voting precincts

To conduct voting and count votes for elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, referendums, recall of a deputy, voting stations with a number of no more than 3,000 voters, referendum participants are formed.

Voting precincts may be established in military units, places of temporary stay of voters, referendum participants (in hospitals, sanatoriums, rest homes and other temporary places of stay).

Article 18. Procedure for the formation of voting precincts

Voting precincts for holding elections, referendums, and recalling a deputy are formed in districts and cities by district, city (in cities of regional subordination) executive committees, and in cities with district divisions - by local administrations of districts in cities (hereinafter referred to as the local administration). In military units, voting stations are formed in the same order upon the proposal of the commanders of the military units.

Voting precincts are formed no later than 45 days before the elections and no later than 30 days before the referendum, 30 days before the day of voting on the recall of a deputy.

When elections of deputies are held on a single voting day, voting stations are common for elections of deputies of the House of Representatives and elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies.

When elections at different levels, elections and a referendum are held simultaneously, voting stations are common for elections at different levels, elections and a referendum.

The bodies that formed voting precincts are obliged, no later than seven days from the date of the decision, to notify voters, referendum participants about the boundaries of each voting precinct or the list of settlements, streets, houses included within the boundaries of the voting precinct, indicating the location of the precinct commissions and voting premises.

CHAPTER 5 LISTS OF CITIZENS HAVING THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS, REFERENDUM, VOTING ON THE RECALL OF A DEPUTY

Article 19. Lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, and the procedure for their compilation

Lists of citizens entitled to participate in the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, deputy of a local Council of Deputies are compiled for each voting station and signed by the chairman and secretary of the precinct commission.

City, township, rural executive committees, and in cities with district division - local administrations, district executive committees in cities and towns where city and village executive committees have not been formed, ensure registration of voters, referendum participants based on data from the state information system "Population Register" and (or) other databases and transmit to precinct commissions lists of citizens of the Republic of Belarus registered in the territory of the corresponding voting stations and having the right to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, signed by the chairmen of the relevant executive committees, and in cities with regional division - heads of local administrations.

Lists of citizens - military personnel located in military units, as well as family members of military personnel and other voters, referendum participants living in the areas where military units are located, are compiled on the basis of data provided by the commanders of military units. Military personnel living outside military units are included in the lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, at their place of residence on a general basis.

Lists of citizens who have the right to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, for voting stations formed in places of temporary stay of voters, referendum participants (in hospitals, sanatoriums, rest homes and other places of temporary stay), are

compiled by precinct commissions on the basis data submitted to precinct commissions by the heads of these institutions.

The names of citizens in the list are indicated in an order convenient for voting.

Article 20. Procedure for inclusion in the list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy

The list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy includes citizens of the Republic of Belarus who have the right to vote, who have reached the age of 18 by the day or on the day of elections, referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy, registered at the time of compiling the list at the place of residence or at the place of stay on the territory of a given voting precinct. Citizens registered at their place of residence are included in the list only at the polling station at their place of residence.

A citizen who has the right to participate in elections, referendums, or voting on the recall of a deputy may be included in the list at only one polling station.

Article 21. Familiarization with the lists of citizens who have the right to participate in elections, referendums, and voting on the recall of a deputy. Right to appeal irregularities in the list

Lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy are presented to voters, referendum participants for review 15 days before the elections, referendum, voting on recalling a deputy, and at voting stations established in places of temporary residence of voters, participants referendum (in hospitals, sanatoriums, rest homes and other places of temporary stay) - two days before elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy.

Citizens who have the right to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy and are registered at the place of residence in the territory of the voting precinct, but are not included in the list for any reason, are additionally included in the list by the precinct commission on the basis of a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (if the presence of a stamp on registration at the place of residence on the territory of the voting station) or an identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (after clarifying information on registration at the place of residence on the territory of the voting station), and citizens registered at the place of stay on the territory of the voting station, – on the basis of a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus and a document confirming registration at the place of stay on the territory of the voting station card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (after clarifying information about registration at the place of stay on the territory of the voting station).

If a citizen does not have registration in the territory of a given voting precinct, he may be included in the list before the day of elections, referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy on the basis of a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus) and a document confirming residence in the territory of the voting precinct. In this case, the precinct commission transmits a message about the inclusion of the

citizen in the list to the precinct commission of the voting station in the territory of which the citizen is registered at the place of residence or place of stay.

Each citizen is provided with the opportunity to check whether he is included in the list and whether the information about him is correct in the list.

Each citizen is given the right to appeal against non-inclusion, incorrect inclusion in the list or exclusion from the list, as well as inaccuracies in the list in the indication of data about the citizen. An application for inaccuracies in the list is considered by the precinct commission, which is obliged no later than two days, and on the eve and on the day of elections, a referendum, or a vote to recall a deputy, immediately consider the application, make the necessary corrections to the list or issue the applicant a copy of a reasoned decision to reject his application. This decision can be appealed to a higher commission, which is obliged to consider the complaint no later than three days, and on voting day - within two hours, but no later than the end of voting. The decision of the precinct commission can also be appealed no later than five days before the elections, referendum, vote to recall a deputy to a district or city court, which is obliged to consider the complaint within three days. The decision of the district or city court is final. Corrections in the list in accordance with the decision of a higher commission or court are made by the precinct commission immediately.

SECTION III

POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS, STATE BODIES IN ORGANIZING PREPARATION OF ELECTIONS, REFERENDUM, RECALL OF DEPUTY, MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC. SYSTEM AND POWERS OF COMMISSIONS FOR CONDUCTING ELECTIONS, REFERENDUM, VOTING ON THE RECALL OF A DEPUTY

CHAPTER 6

POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS, STATE BODIES IN ORGANIZING PREPARATION OF ELECTIONS, REFERENDUM, RECALL OF A DEPUTY, MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 22. Powers of the President of the Republic of Belarus in organizing preparations for elections and republican referendums

President of the Republic of Belarus:

- 1) calls regular and extraordinary elections to the House of Representatives and determines organizational measures to ensure their holding;
- 2) calls regular and extraordinary elections to the Council of the Republic and determines organizational measures to ensure their holding;
- 3) appoints regular and extraordinary elections to local Councils of Deputies and determines organizational measures to ensure their holding;
- 4) calls elections to local Councils of Deputies in newly formed administrative-territorial units;
- 5) when the Council of the Republic dissolves a local Council of Deputies, calls elections to this local Council of Deputies;

6) appoints a republican referendum and determines organizational measures to ensure its holding.

Article 23. Powers of the House of Representatives in organizing the preparation of elections, republican referendum

House of Representatives:

- 1) calls elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus and determines organizational measures to ensure their holding;
- 2) when considering the republican budget, provides funds for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, deputies of the House of Representatives, members of the Council of the Republic, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, and a republican referendum.

Article 24. Powers of local executive and administrative, as well as representative bodies in organizing the preparation of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic

Regional and Minsk city executive committees are preparing proposals for the formation of electoral districts for elections to the House of Representatives.

District, city (in cities of regional subordination) executive committees, local administrations form voting stations and precinct commissions for holding elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, and establish a unified numbering of voting stations for the district and city.

City (in cities of district subordination), township, rural executive committees:

- 1) form electoral districts for elections to city (cities of regional subordination), township, rural Councils of Deputies;
- 2) form city, town, and rural election commissions, city, town, and rural referendum commissions.

City, township, rural executive committees, local administrations, district executive committees in cities and towns where city and township executive committees have not been formed, ensure registration of citizens and transmit to precinct commissions lists of citizens registered in the territory of the relevant voting precincts and entitled participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy.

District, city, settlement, rural executive committees, local administrations:

- 1) organize the provision of commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions, commissions for conducting voting on the recall of a deputy with premises for accommodating commissions and conducting voting, as well as the necessary equipment, communications, and vehicles;
- 2) create conditions for holding meetings of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies with voters; provide them with free premises for these purposes, as well as the necessary reference and information materials; resolve issues of providing premises for public discussion of issues submitted for referendum;

- 3) allocate places on the territory of voting stations for the placement of printed campaign materials;
- 4) determine places for candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, and their proxies to hold mass events (outdoor meetings, rallies, picketing) for the purpose of pre-election campaigning;
- 5) facilitate the organization and conduct of events related to the training and advanced training of members of commissions and other persons involved in the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic.

District, city executive committees, local administrations, as well as regional and Minsk city executive committees, when initiating a referendum by citizens of the Republic of Belarus, check the authenticity of citizens' signatures on the referendum signature sheets and make decisions on the results of collecting citizens' signatures.

Presidiums of regional, Minsk city Councils of Deputies and regional, Minsk city executive committees:

- 1) form constituencies for elections to the regional and Minsk City Councils of Deputies;
- 2) form regional, Minsk city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, regional, Minsk city election commissions, regional, Minsk city referendum commissions, as well as district election commissions;
- 3) convene meetings of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies for the election and recall of members of the Council of the Republic.

The presidiums of regional Councils of Deputies organize meetings of regional Councils of Deputies to elect delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies.

Presidiums of district, city Councils of Deputies and district, city (in cities of regional subordination) executive committees:

- 1) form electoral districts for elections to district, city (cities of regional subordination) Councils of Deputies;
- 2) form district and city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, district and city election commissions, as well as district and city referendum commissions.

The presidiums of city Councils of Deputies and city executive committees in cities with regional divisions form city district commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus and referendums.

The presidiums of the Minsk city, district, city (cities of regional subordination) Councils of Deputies and the corresponding executive committees nominate candidates for members of the Council of the Republic, and also initiate (except for the presidium of the Minsk City Council of Deputies and the Minsk City Executive Committee) the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic.

The presidiums of regional, district, city (cities of regional subordination) Councils of Deputies, city (cities of regional subordination), township and rural Councils of Deputies

nominate candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies.

Regional Councils of Deputies elect delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies of the corresponding region.

Local Councils of Deputies establish the number of constituencies to be formed and the average number of voters per constituency for elections to the corresponding local Council of Deputies, appoint regional, district, city, city district, township, rural referendums, respectively, as well as elections of deputies to replace those who have dropped out.

Chairman or presidium of the local Council of Deputies:

- 1) convene meetings of voters to initiate and raise the issue of recalling a deputy;
- 2) organize verification of the authenticity of voters' signatures on signature sheets in support of the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy and draw up a protocol on the results of collecting signatures.

Local executive and administrative, as well as representative bodies, exercise other powers provided for by this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic.

CHAPTER 7

SYSTEM OF COMMISSIONS FOR PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS, DEPUTIES, REFERENDUM, VOTING ON THE RECALL OF A DEPUTY

Article 25. System of commissions for the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of deputies

The preparation and conduct of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies, and referendums are ensured by the Central Commission, as well as, accordingly:

election commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter referred to as the commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus);

election commissions for the election of deputies (hereinafter, unless otherwise stated, election commissions);

referendum commission.

The preparation and conduct of the recall of deputies is ensured by the Central Commission and the commissions for conducting voting on the recall of a deputy.

Article 26. Central Commission

The Central Commission is a state body that organizes, within its powers, the preparation and conduct of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, deputies of the House of Representatives, members of the Council of the Republic, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, and republican referendums. The Central Commission resolves issues related to organizing the recall of deputies of the House of Representatives and members of the Council of the Republic.

The Central Commission heads the system of commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions and referendum commissions operating during the preparation and conduct of elections and republican referendums.

The Central Commission is a permanent body, is a legal entity, has a seal with the image of the State Emblem of the Republic of Belarus and its name, and a bank account.

Article 27. Commission for the Election of the President of the Republic of Belarus

The preparation and conduct of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus is ensured by the following commissions:

territorial commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus - regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional subordination, except for cities with regional divisions), district commissions in cities for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus;

precinct commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

When calling elections for the President of the Republic of Belarus, the House of Representatives may decide not to form regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional subordination, except for cities with regional divisions) commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, but entrust the exercise of their powers to the existing regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional subordination) election commissions.

Article 28. Election commissions for the election of deputies

The preparation and conduct of elections of deputies is ensured by the following election commissions:

territorial election commissions - regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional and district subordination), township and rural election commissions;

district election commissions:

precinct election commissions.

When calling repeat elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of the regional and Minsk city Councils of Deputies, elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of the regional and Minsk city Councils of Deputies, district election commissions are not formed instead of those who retired, and their powers are exercised accordingly by the existing regional, Minsk city election commissions, for with the exception of cases of calling repeat elections of deputies of the House of Representatives in accordance with Articles 88 ¹ and 88 ² of this Code.

When repeat elections of deputies of city (cities of regional subordination), township and rural Councils of Deputies, elections of deputies of city (cities of regional subordination), township and rural Councils of Deputies are called instead of retired city (in cities of regional subordination), township, rural election commissions are not formed, and their powers are exercised accordingly by the existing district election commissions.

Article 29. Deleted.

Article 30. Commissions for conducting voting on the recall of a deputy

The preparation and conduct of voting on the recall of a deputy is ensured by the following commissions:

current territorial election commissions:

regional, Minsk city election commissions - on voting on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a deputy of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies;

district election commissions - on voting on the recall of a deputy of a district, city (cities of regional subordination), township, village Council of Deputies;

city (in cities of regional subordination) election commissions - to conduct voting on the recall of a deputy of the city Council of Deputies;

precinct commissions for voting on the recall of a deputy.

Article 31. Referendum commissions

The preparation and conduct of the republican referendum is ensured by the following commissions:

territorial referendum commissions - regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional subordination, except for cities with regional division), district referendum commissions in cities; precinct referendum commissions.

When calling a republican referendum, the President of the Republic of Belarus may decide not to form regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional subordination, except for cities with regional divisions) referendum commissions, but entrust the exercise of their powers to the existing regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional subordination) election commissions.

The preparation and conduct of a local referendum is ensured by:

regional, Minsk city referendum - regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional subordination, except for cities with district division), district in cities and precinct referendum commissions;

district, city (in cities of regional subordination), district in the city referendum - district, city, district in the city and precinct referendum commissions;

city (in cities of district subordination), township, rural referendum - city, township, rural and precinct referendum commissions.

When calling a local referendum, the local Council of Deputies that called the referendum may decide not to form the appropriate referendum commissions, but to entrust the exercise of their powers to the existing territorial election commissions.

In the event of the appointment and holding of simultaneously republican and local referendums, the commissions formed in the manner prescribed by this Code are common to all simultaneously held referendums.

CHAPTER 8

EDUCATION, ORGANIZATION OF WORK AND POWERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMISSION

Article 32. Procedure for the formation of the Central Commission

The Central Commission is formed by 12 people from citizens of the Republic of Belarus who, as a rule, have a higher legal education and experience in organizing and conducting elections and referendums.

Members of the Central Commission are elected by the All-Belarusian People's Assembly on the proposal of the President of the Republic of Belarus, previously agreed upon with the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly. Candidates for the Central Commission are recommended to the President of the Republic of Belarus by joint decisions of the presidiums of the regional, Minsk City Councils of Deputies and regional, Minsk City executive committees.

The Chairman of the Central Commission is elected by the All-Belarusian People's Assembly at the proposal of the President of the Republic of Belarus, previously agreed upon with the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, from among the members of the Central Commission. The Deputy Chairman and Secretary of the Central Commission are elected from among the members of the Central Commission at its first meeting. Candidates for election to the positions of Deputy Chairman and Secretary of the Central Commission are submitted by the Chairman of the Central Commission. The candidacy of the Deputy Chairman is previously agreed upon with the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly.

The term of office of the Central Commission is five years. The term of office of the Central Commission of the new composition begins from the day of its formation in its authorized composition.

The Central Commission cannot include candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and their proxies, candidates for delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, candidates for deputies and their proxies, candidates for members of the Council of the Republic, delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, deputies, members of the Council of the Republic, and as well as other persons in cases provided for by law. The powers of a person who is a member of the Central Commission, in these cases, are considered terminated from the moment of his registration as a candidate, proxy, nomination as a candidate for delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, or from the moment this person acquires a status according to which he cannot be a member of the Central Commission .

Members of the Central Commission who are members of political parties must suspend their membership in the political party and during the period of work in the commission cannot take part in the activities of political parties, nor carry out their instructions.

The Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary, members of the Central Commission may be dismissed from office before the expiration of their term of office in the following cases:

a written statement of resignation due to circumstances preventing their implementation, including for health reasons;

termination of citizenship of the Republic of Belarus; systematic failure to fulfill one's duties;

committing actions that discredit the Central Commission;

committing an intentional crime established by a court verdict that has entered into legal force.

The dismissal of members of the Central Commission is carried out by the All-Belarusian People's Assembly at the proposal of the President of the Republic of Belarus, previously agreed upon with the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly.

The election of members of the Central Commission in place of persons who have retired from its composition is carried out in the manner established by this article.

Article 32 ¹. Organization of the work of the Central Commission and ensuring its activities

The main principles of the Central Commission's activities are legality, independence, collegiality, openness and publicity.

The Central Commission meets for its first meeting no later than three days from the date of its formation in its authorized composition.

Meetings of the Central Commission are convened as necessary by the Chairman of the Central Commission, as well as at the request of at least one third of its members.

of Article 32 of this Code takes part in it .

Decisions of the Central Commission are made in the form of resolutions by open voting by a majority vote of the total composition of the commission. If there is an equal number of votes cast "for" and "against", the decision for which the presiding officer voted is considered adopted.

The Chairman and Secretary of the Central Commission work on a permanent basis.

In the event of the temporary absence of the Deputy Chairman or Secretary of the Central Commission, their duties, by decision of the Central Commission, may be assigned to its other members. In this case, the decision to assign the duties of the Deputy Chairman of the Central Commission must be previously agreed upon with the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly.

By decision of the Central Commission, the Deputy Chairman and other members of the commission during the preparation and conduct of elections and republican referendums, as well as in other cases provided for by this Code, may be relieved from performing labor (official) duties at the place of their main job (service) while maintaining their place of work, the position of an employee (worker profession) and average earnings from funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections and republican referendums. Members of the Central Commission performing their duties in another location outside the place of their main work (service) are provided with guarantees and compensation provided for by law during business trips.

To ensure the activities of the Central Commission, the apparatus of the Central Commission is created. The number of employees of the Central Commission apparatus is determined by the President of the Republic of Belarus on the proposal of the Chairman of the Central Commission. The structure and staffing of the Central Commission apparatus are approved by the Chairman of the Central Commission.

The chairman, secretary and employees of the apparatus of the Central Commission, with the exception of persons providing activities and technical services, are state civil servants.

Financing of the activities of the Central Commission and its apparatus is carried out within the limits of the funds provided in the republican budget for the maintenance of the Central Commission.

The Chairman of the Central Commission organizes the work of the commission, carries out general management of its apparatus, appoints employees to positions and dismisses employees of the apparatus, manages financial resources within the cost estimate.

During the period of preparation and conduct of elections and republican referendums, the Chairman of the Central Commission has the right to temporarily increase the number of staff members. Remuneration and other payments to such employees are carried out in accordance with the law, depending on the position of the employee, within the limits of funds allocated for these purposes.

To work in the Central Commission during the preparation and conduct of elections and republican referendums, employees of other government bodies and other organizations may be temporarily transferred. Temporary transfer is carried out with the written consent of the employee in accordance with labor legislation. The Chairman of the Central Commission has the right to reward employees temporarily transferred to work in the Central Commission at the expense of funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections and republican referendums.

The work procedure of the Central Commission is determined by regulations approved by the Central Commission.

Article 33. Powers of the Central Commission

The Central Commission, within its competence:

- 1) organizes the preparation and conduct of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, deputies of the House of Representatives and members of the Council of the Republic, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, republican referendums;
- 2) exercises control over the implementation of legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy and member of the Council of the Republic throughout the territory of the Republic of Belarus;
- 3) provides explanations of the legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy and member of the Council of the Republic for the purpose of its uniform application;
- 4) manages the activities of commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions, commissions for voting on the recall of a deputy, hears their information, provides methodological, organizational and technical assistance to these commissions;
- 5) carries out methodological management of the work on training and advanced training of members of commissions and other persons involved in the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic;

- 6) if necessary, decide on the merits issues that fall within the competence of the lower commission;
- 7) forms electoral districts for the election of deputies of the House of Representatives and establishes the average number of voters per electoral district in the Republic of Belarus;
- 8) calls elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, registers the elected delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly and publishes their list in the print media, convenes the first meeting of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly of the new convocation;
- 9) gives conclusions on the eligibility of nominating candidates for members of the Council of the Republic, registers nominated candidates for members of the Council of the Republic, sums up the results of elections of members of the Council of the Republic, registers elected members of the Council of the Republic and publishes their list in the print media, convenes the first session of the Council of the Republic after the elections;

10) registers:

initiative groups of citizens to nominate candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus;

candidates for President of the Republic of Belarus, their proxies, representatives on financial issues and issues them the appropriate certificates;

the initiative group of citizens for holding a republican referendum and the issues proposed by it for the republican referendum;

an initiative group of voters to collect signatures in support of the proposal to raise the issue of recalling a member of the House of Representatives;

- 11) ensures compliance with equal legal conditions for the election activities of political parties, candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies;
- 12) determines the procedure for informing citizens about the progress of preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic; determines the procedure for using the media in the election campaign;
- 13) determines measures aimed at creating additional conditions for citizens with disabilities during elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic;
- 14) draws up and approves cost estimates for the preparation and conduct of elections, a republican referendum, the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives within the limits of funds allocated from the republican budget; creates an extra-budgetary fund for additional financing of expenses for the preparation and conduct of elections, a republican referendum and approves the regulations on the fund; distributes funds allocated from the republican budget and extra-budgetary funds between commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions, commissions for voting on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives;
- 15) controls the targeted use of funds allocated from the republican budget, extrabudgetary fund, election funds of persons nominated as candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus; informs the House of Representatives about the expenditure of funds allocated from the budget for holding elections, a republican referendum, and the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives;

publishes a report on the expenditure of funds from the extra-budgetary fund, places it on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet;

- 16) establishes the forms of ballots and the list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of deputies, protocols of commissions and other documents on elections, referendums, recall of deputies, samples of ballot boxes and stamps of commissions;
- 17) ensures the production of ballots for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus and for voting in the republican referendum and supply them to the regional and Minsk city commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, for the conduct of the republican referendum;
- 18) determines measures to ensure the safety of ballot boxes and documents on elections, referendums during the period of early voting;
- 19) hears reports from state bodies and bodies of public associations on issues related to the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums;
- 20) when elections of different levels, elections and referendums are held simultaneously, it may establish that the lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections of different levels, elections and referendums are common for elections of different levels, elections and referendums, as well as when elections and referendums are held simultaneously may establish that territorial commissions are general for elections and referendums;
- 21) controls the provision of commissions with premises, transport, communications, considers other issues of their material and technical support;
 - 22) sums up the results of elections, referendums;
- 23) registers the elected deputies of the House of Representatives and publishes their list in the print media, convenes the first session of the House of Representatives after the elections;
- 24) issues certificates of their election to the elected President of the Republic of Belarus and members of the Council of the Republic;
- 25) resolve issues related to the conduct of the second round of voting, repeat elections and elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the event of a vacancy in the position of President, as well as repeat voting on a referendum;
- 26) decides issues related to the organization of the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives and a member of the Council of the Republic, calls repeat elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, elections of deputies of the House of Representatives instead of those who have retired and ensures their holding;
- 27) establishes the results of voting on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a member of the Council of the Republic;
- 28) considers complaints against decisions of commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions, voting commissions on the recall of a deputy and makes decisions on them;
- 29) considers appeals from citizens and legal entities on issues of holding elections, referendums, recall of deputies, members of the Council of the Republic;
- 30) studies and generalizes the practice of applying legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy and member of the Council of the Republic;

- 31) makes proposals to improve the legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy and member of the Council of the Republic;
- 32) carries out, in cooperation with other government bodies and other organizations, information and educational activities on the implementation of citizens' electoral rights;
- 33) creates working groups and other structures for organizational, legal and technical support for elections and referendums;
- 34) during elections, a republican referendum, determines the procedure and types of incentives for members of commissions, employees of the apparatus of the Central Commission, persons carrying out accounting and reporting in commissions, as well as employees of the structures specified in paragraph 33 of this part;
- 35) establishes and develops relations with bodies of foreign states and international organizations involved in organizing elections and referendums;
 - 36) exercises other powers in accordance with this Code and other acts of legislation.

The issues specified in paragraphs 3, 6–10, 12–14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23, 25–28 and 34 of the first part of this article are considered by the Central Commission collectively.

Appeals from citizens and legal entities are subject to collegial consideration if decisions on them are made by lower-level commissions. At the initiative of the Chairman of the Central Commission or at the request of at least one third of its members, other appeals from citizens and legal entities are considered at a meeting of the Central Commission.

Appeals that do not require collegial consideration are, on behalf of the Chairman of the Central Commission, considered by members of the Central Commission, as well as employees of its apparatus.

Decisions of the Central Commission can be appealed to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus in cases provided for by law.

Article 33 ¹. Members of the Central Commission with advisory voting rights

A candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus has the right, from the date of his registration, to send to the Central Commission a member of the commission with the right of advisory vote.

The term of office of a member of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote begins from the day the Central Commission receives from the candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus a written notification of the nomination of a member of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote. The written notification regarding a member of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote shall indicate the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (identification card number of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus), contact telephone number .

A member of the Central Commission with the right to an advisory vote is issued a certificate, the form of which is established by the Central Commission.

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, their proxies, and representatives on financial issues cannot be members of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote.

Members of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote are obliged to comply with the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, comply with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, and not commit actions that discredit the Central Commission or interfere with its work.

A member of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote has the right to:

introduce proposals on issues within its competence to the agenda of a meeting of the Central Commission and demand a vote on them;

speak at a meeting of the Central Commission;

ask participants of the meeting of the Central Commission questions in accordance with the agenda and receive substantive answers to them;

get acquainted with the documents and materials that are considered at the meeting of the Central Commission.

A member of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote does not have the right to:

participate in inspections conducted by the Central Commission and in voting when the commission makes decisions;

give explanations and instructions, make communications on behalf of the Central Commission.

The powers of a member of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote are terminated early:

at his written request;

by decision of the Central Commission upon termination of the powers of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus;

at the request of the candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus to recall the member of the Central Commission sent by him;

in case of termination of citizenship of the Republic of Belarus.

The powers of a member of the Central Commission with the right to an advisory vote may be terminated early by decision of the Central Commission if he commits actions that discredit the Central Commission or interfere with its work.

In the event of early termination of the powers of a member of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote, the Central Commission will cancel the certificate issued to him.

The powers of the members of the Central Commission with the right of advisory vote are terminated after the Central Commission establishes the results of the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

CHAPTER 9

FORMATION OF COMMISSIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS, DEPUTIES, FOR A REFERENDUM, FOR CONDUCTING A VOTING ON THE RECALL OF A DEPUTY. PROCEDURE FOR CHANGING THE COMPOSITION OF COMMISSIONS, ORGANIZATION OF THEIR WORK AND POWERS

Article 34. Formation of commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies, for a referendum, for voting on the recall of a deputy

Commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies, for a referendum, for voting on the recall of a deputy, formed from representatives of political parties, other public associations, labor collectives, as well as from representatives of citizens nominated to the commission by submitting an application, are formed:

regional, Minsk city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, regional, Minsk city election commissions, regional, Minsk city referendum commissions - by the presidiums of regional, Minsk city Councils of Deputies and regional, Minsk city executive committees consisting of 9–13 commission members; the specified commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus are formed no later than 80 days before the elections, for the elections of deputies - 75 days before the elections, for the referendum - 30 days before the referendum;

district election commissions - by the presidiums of regional, Minsk city Councils of Deputies and regional, Minsk city executive committees consisting of 9-13 commission members no later than 75 days before the elections;

district, city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, district, city (in cities of regional subordination) election commissions, district, city referendum commissions - by the presidiums of district, city Councils of Deputies and district, city executive committees, and district in cities commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, by referendum - by the presidiums of city Councils of Deputies and city executive committees consisting of 9–11 commission members; these commissions are formed no later than 80 and 75 days before the elections, respectively, and 30 days before the referendum;

city (in cities of district subordination), township, rural election commissions, city (in cities of district subordination), township, rural referendum commissions - by city, township, rural executive committees consisting of 5–9 commission members no later than 75 days before elections, 30 days before the referendum;

precinct commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, precinct election commissions, precinct referendum commissions, precinct commissions for voting on the recall of a deputy - by district, city executive committees, and in cities with district divisions - by local administrations consisting, as a rule, of 5–19 members of the commission no later than 30 days before the elections, 20 days before the referendum, 20 days before the day of voting on the recall of the deputy. When elections of different levels, elections and referendums are held simultaneously, precinct commissions are common for elections of different levels, elections and referendums.

The bodies that form the commission, as a rule, make up at least one third of its composition from representatives of political parties and other public associations. This provision does not apply when forming precinct commissions formed in military units, places of temporary stay of voters, referendum participants (in hospitals, sanatoriums, rest homes and other places of temporary stay).

The commission cannot include judges, prosecutors, heads of local executive and administrative bodies.

State civil servants cannot make up more than one third of the commission.

Joint decisions of the presidium of the relevant local Council of Deputies and the executive committee are adopted by a majority vote of the composition. At least two thirds of the presidium of the local Council of Deputies and the executive committee must participate in the joint meeting of these bodies. Representatives of political parties, other public associations, labor collectives, and citizens who nominated their representatives to the commission have the right to attend the meeting of the bodies forming the commission.

The decision on the formation of commissions shall indicate the surname, first name, patronymic (if any) of each member of the commission, the method of nomination to the commission, location and telephone numbers of the commission.

The decision of the bodies that formed the commission can be appealed within three days from the date of its adoption, respectively, to the regional, Minsk city, district, city court by the entities that nominated their representatives to the commission. The complaint must be signed respectively by the head of a political party (organizational structure), another public association (organizational structure), the head of another organization (structural unit), or citizens who nominated a representative to the commission by submitting an application. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

A notice on the formation of commissions is published in the print media within seven days from the date of adoption of the relevant decision. A message about the formation of city (cities of regional subordination), township, and rural commissions may be brought to the attention of citizens in another way within the same period.

Article 35. The procedure for nominating representatives to territorial, district and precinct commissions

Political parties, other public associations, labor collectives of organizations or collectives of their structural divisions from among their members, as well as citizens, by submitting an application, can nominate only one representative to the relevant territorial, district, precinct commission. In this case, the same representative can be nominated to only one territorial, district or precinct commission.

The following have the right to nominate their representatives to the commissions:

governing bodies of political parties and other republican public associations - to regional, Minsk city, district election commissions;

governing bodies of regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional subordination), district in cities organizational structures of political parties, other public associations - to the relevant regional, Minsk city, district, city (in cities of regional subordination) commissions for

the election of the President of the Republic Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions, city district commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, referendums, as well as precinct commissions;

governing bodies of regional, Minsk city organizational structures of political parties, other public associations - to the relevant district election commissions;

governing bodies of city (in cities of district subordination) organizational structures of political parties, other public associations, governing bodies or meetings of their primary organizations - to the relevant city (in cities of district subordination), township, rural election commissions, referendum commissions and precinct commissions. The primary organization of a political party or other public association has the right to nominate its representative to the precinct commission of the voting precinct on the territory of which the primary organization is located;

meetings of labor collectives of organizations or collectives of their structural divisions, numbering at least 10 employees, located on the territory of a region, district, city, district in a city, village, village council - to the relevant territorial, district and precinct commissions. When nominating representatives to commissions from teams of structural divisions of the organization, nominating representatives to these commissions from the entire workforce of the organization is not carried out. The meeting is valid if more than half of the team participates in its work. The decision of the meeting of the organization's labor collective is made by a majority vote of its participants. Representatives to territorial, district and precinct commissions can be nominated from teams of several structural divisions or from several labor teams of organizations and teams of structural divisions with a total workforce of at least 10 people at their general meeting. The meeting is valid if more than half of its members from each such collective are present.

The governing bodies of political parties and other public associations nominate representatives to the commissions at their meetings.

Citizens have the right to nominate their representatives to territorial, district and precinct commissions by submitting an application. The application must be signed by at least 10 citizens who have the right to vote and live in the relevant territory.

The nomination of representatives to the precinct commissions for voting on the recall of a deputy is carried out in the manner prescribed by parts two, three and four of this article.

When nominating a representative to the relevant commission, the minutes of the meeting, session or statement signed by citizens are submitted to the bodies forming the commission no later than five days before the deadline for the formation of the corresponding commission established by this Code.

The protocol shall indicate the name of the governing body of a political party, another public association that nominated a representative to the commission, his address and telephone number, the number of members of the body (team), the number of participants in the meeting, meetings of this body (team), voting results, date of decision, surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, position held by the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence, party affiliation of the person nominated as a member of the commission. The relevant data is also indicated in the minutes of the meeting

of the labor collective, the primary organization of a political party, or another public association. The minutes are signed by the chairman and secretary of the meeting or session. The application of citizens who nominated a representative to the commission by submitting an application shall indicate the relevant data listed in this part of this article about the person nominated as a member of the commission, as well as the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence and date of signature of each citizen who signed the application.

Article 36. Procedure for changing the composition of commissions

A person who is a member of the commission is released from performing his duties in the commission upon personal application, as well as in the event of revocation or termination of powers.

The right of recall belongs to citizens or the body that nominated a person to the commission. The recall of a person included in the commission is carried out in the manner established for nomination.

The powers of a person who is a member of the commission are terminated by the bodies that formed the commission if this person violates the requirements of this Code or systematically fails to fulfill his duties. The decision to terminate the powers of a commission member is issued no later than the next day after the decision is made. The decision to terminate the powers of a commission member may be appealed by him, respectively, to the regional, Minsk city, district, city court within three days from the date of the decision. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The powers of a person who is a member of the commission are terminated if the court determines that the requirements of this Code were violated during the formation of the commission.

If a person leaves the commission for the reasons specified in part one of this article and other reasons, the bodies that formed the commission have the right to apply to political parties, other public associations, labor collectives, and citizens with a request to nominate a new representative to the commission. If, upon the departure of a member of the commission, its composition remains competent, the nomination of a new representative and changes in the composition of the commission may not be carried out.

The decision to change the composition of the commission or to form a new commission must be made by the bodies forming the commission no later than five days from the date of departure of the commission member.

If, upon the departure of a member of the commission for the reasons specified in part one of this article and other reasons, the commission remains in an unauthorized composition, the powers of the commission for the period of its formation are exercised by a higher commission.

Article 37. Organization of the work of territorial, district and precinct commissions

The first meeting of territorial, district and precinct commissions is convened by the bodies that formed the commissions no later than three days from the date of their formation.

The chairman, deputy chairman and secretary of the commission are elected at the first meeting of the relevant commission from among its members.

The chairman of the commission cannot be a close relative of the candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, his spouse, as well as a person directly subordinate to the candidate.

Meetings of the commission are convened and conducted by the chairman, and in case of his absence or on his instructions - by the deputy chairman of the commission. Meetings of the commission are also held at the request of at least one third of the commission members. Members of the commission are notified in advance of the meeting of the commission.

Meetings of the commission are valid if at least two thirds of the commission members take part in them. Decisions of the commission are made by open voting by a majority vote of the total composition of the commission. If there is an equal number of votes cast "for" and "against", the decision for which the presiding officer voted is considered adopted. Members of the commission who do not agree with its decision have the right to express a dissenting opinion, which is attached in writing to the minutes.

A member of the commission has the right:

make proposals to the agenda of the commission meeting, as well as proposals on issues within the competence of the commission;

speak at a meeting of the commission and demand a vote on the proposals made;

ask the participants of the commission meeting questions in accordance with the agenda and receive substantive answers to them;

get acquainted with the documents and materials of the commission of which he is a member and lower commissions;

exercise other powers in accordance with the competence of the commission.

A member of the commission is obliged:

comply with the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, fulfill the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy; not to commit actions that discredit the commission;

participate in commission meetings, and if it is impossible to participate in a meeting, inform the commission management about this;

take part in the preparation of commission meetings and inspections carried out by the commission;

carry out the decisions of the commission, instructions of the commission and its leadership.

Decisions and actions of the commission may be appealed to a higher commission, and in cases provided for by this Code and other acts of legislation, also to court.

By decision of the commission, individual members may be released during the preparation and conduct of elections, a referendum, or the recall of a deputy from performing labor (official) duties while maintaining their average earnings at the expense of funds allocated for the conduct of elections, a referendum, or the recall of a deputy.

Remuneration for members of the commission may also be based on the actual time worked in the commission.

During an election campaign, a referendum campaign, or a vote to recall a deputy, the same person can be a member of only one commission.

Persons included in the commission do not have the right to take part in campaigning for or against a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, for or against an issue submitted to a referendum, for or against the recall of a deputy.

Article 38. Assistance to commissions in the exercise of their powers

State bodies, public associations, organizations, officials are obliged to assist commissions in the exercise of their powers and provide information and materials necessary for their work.

Commissions have the right to address issues related to the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, and recall of a deputy to government bodies, public associations, heads of organizations, and other officials who are obliged to consider the issue raised and give a response to the commission no later than three days.

Article 39. Powers of regional and Minsk city commissions for elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, referendum

Regional, Minsk city commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, on referendum:

- 1) organize the holding of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, republican, regional, Minsk city referendum and monitor compliance with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, referendums in the territory of the region, the city of Minsk:
 - 2) manage the activities of district, city, district in cities and precinct commissions;
- 3) hear reports from officials (employees) of local executive and administrative bodies, organizations on issues related to the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums;
- 4) control the compilation of lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, and their presentation for review;
- 5) manage funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums; distribute part of these funds among lower-level commissions for holding elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, republican, regional, Minsk city referendum and exercise control over the targeted use of allocated funds; control the provision of commissions with premises, transport, communications, consider other issues of material, technical and organizational support for elections, referendums;
- 6) consider applications and complaints about decisions and actions of lower commissions and make decisions on them;
- 7) establish the voting results for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, the republican referendum in the region, the city of Minsk and report them to the Central Commission, establish the results of the regional, Minsk city referendum.

Regional, Minsk city commissions for elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, when conducting elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus:

- 1) exercise control over compliance by the initiative group of citizens for nominating a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus with the requirements of this Code when collecting signatures and ensure the reliability of data on the number of such signatures;
- 2) draw up, on the basis of the protocols of district, city, city district commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, protocols on establishing the number of citizens who have signed in support of the proposal to nominate a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus in the region, the city of Minsk, and send them to the Central Commission;
- 3) exercise control over compliance with equal legal conditions for the election activities of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus.

Regional, Minsk city referendum commissions, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, when conducting a republican, regional, Minsk city referendum:

- 1) assist the media in explaining the content of the issue submitted to the referendum;
- 1 ¹) ensure the production of ballots for voting on the regional, Minsk city referendum and the supply of them to district, city, and city-district referendum commissions;
- 2) ensure the publication of the results of the referendum in the region and the city of Minsk in local media.

The commissions specified in this article exercise other powers in accordance with this Code and other acts of legislation.

The powers of the regional and Minsk city commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus terminate after the publication of the results of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The powers of regional and Minsk city referendum commissions are terminated after the referendum decision comes into force.

Article 39 ¹. Powers of regional and Minsk city election commissions

Regional, Minsk city election commissions:

- 1) organize elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies, voting on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, deputies of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and exercise control over compliance with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, recall of a deputy in the territory region, the city of Minsk;
 - 2) manage the activities of district and precinct election commissions;
- 3) hear reports from officials (employees) of local executive and administrative bodies, organizations on issues related to the preparation and conduct of elections, recall of a deputy;
- 4) exercise control over compliance with equal legal conditions for the election activities of candidates for deputies;
- 5) control the compilation of lists of citizens who have the right to participate in elections, voting on the recall of a deputy, and their presentation for review;

- 6) manage the funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections, voting on the recall of a deputy, distribute part of these funds among lower-level election commissions and exercise control over the intended use of the allocated funds; control the provision of lower-level election commissions with premises, transport, communications, consider other issues of material, technical and organizational support for elections, recall of a deputy;
- 7) exercise control over the receipt and use of funds from election funds of persons nominated as candidates for deputies, candidates for deputies;
- 8) consider applications and complaints about decisions and actions of lower-level election commissions and make decisions on them.

Regional, Minsk city election commissions, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, when conducting elections of deputies of the House of Representatives:

- 1) submit to the Central Commission protocols of district election commissions on the registration of candidates for deputies in electoral districts formed in the territory of the region, the city of Minsk;
- 2) control the production of ballots for elections of deputies of the House of Representatives and the supply of them to precinct election commissions;
- 3) establish the results of elections of deputies of the House of Representatives in the region, the city of Minsk, submit to the Central Commission protocols of district election commissions on the results of elections in electoral districts;
- 4) organize the holding of repeat elections and elections of deputies to replace those who have retired.

Regional, Minsk city election commissions, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, during elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies:

- 1) sum up the results of elections to the regional and Minsk City Council of Deputies and submit information about this to the Central Commission; register elected deputies; publish a message about the election results and a list of elected deputies of the regional and Minsk City Council of Deputies;
- 2) organize repeat elections of deputies of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and elections of deputies to replace those who retired;
 - 3) convene the first session of the newly elected regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies.

Regional, Minsk city election commissions, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, when voting on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a deputy of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies:

- 1) register an initiative group to collect signatures in support of the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies;
 - 2) call a vote on the recall of a deputy of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies;
- 3) approve the text of the ballot for voting on the recall of a deputy, ensure the production of ballots and supply of them to precinct commissions;
- 4) establish the results of voting on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, draw up a protocol on this and send it to the Central Commission;
- 5) establish the results of voting on the recall of a deputy of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and make a decision on recognizing the deputy as recalled by voters.

The commissions specified in this article exercise other powers in accordance with this Code and other acts of legislation.

The powers of regional and Minsk city election commissions are retained until elections of deputies are called on a single voting day.

Article 40. Powers of district and city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions

District, city (in cities of regional subordination) commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions:

- 1) organize elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the district, city Council of Deputies, republican, regional, district, city referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy of the district, city (in cities of regional and district subordination), township, village Council of Deputies and exercise control over compliance with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy in the territory of a district or city;
 - 2) manage the activities of precinct commissions;
 - 3) excluded;
- 4) hear reports from officials (employees) of local executive and administrative bodies, organizations on issues related to the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy of the local Council of Deputies;
- 5) control the compilation of lists of citizens who have the right to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, and their presentation for review;
- 6) manage funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, and recall of a deputy; distribute part of these funds between precinct commissions for holding elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies, referendums and exercise control over the intended use of the allocated funds; control the provision of commissions with premises, transport, communications, consider other issues of material, technical and organizational support for elections, referendums, and recall of a deputy;
- 7) consider applications and complaints about decisions and actions of lower commissions and make decisions on them.

District, city (in cities of regional subordination) election commissions, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, during elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies:

- 1) excluded;
- 2) manage the activities of city (cities of regional subordination), township, and rural election commissions;
- 2 ¹) exercise control over the receipt and use of funds from the election funds of persons nominated as candidates for deputies, candidates for deputies;
- 3) register initiative groups of citizens to collect signatures of voters in support of persons proposed for nomination as candidates for deputies; issue members of initiative groups with appropriate certificates;
 - 4) excluded;

- 5) register candidates for deputies, their proxies, representatives on financial issues and issue them the appropriate certificates;
- 6) approve the texts of ballots for elections of deputies of the district and city Council of Deputies for each electoral district; ensure the production of ballots and supply of them to precinct commissions;
- 7) assist candidates for deputy in organizing meetings with voters in the manner established by this Code;
- 8) sum up the results of elections to the district and city Council of Deputies and submit information about this to the regional election commission; register elected deputies; publish a message about the election results, a list of elected deputies of the district, city Council of Deputies and issue certificates to the elected deputies;
 - 9) excluded;
 - 10) excluded;
 - 11) convene the first session of the newly elected district and city Council of Deputies.

District election commissions organize repeat elections of deputies of the district, city (in cities of regional subordination), settlement, rural Council of Deputies and elections of deputies in place of those who have retired, city (in cities of regional subordination) election commissions - repeat elections of deputies of the city Council of Deputies and elections of deputies in place of those who have retired.

District election commissions when recalling a deputy of a district, city (in cities of regional subordination), settlement, village Council of Deputies, city (in cities of regional subordination) election commissions when conducting a recall of a deputy of a city Council of Deputies:

- 1) register initiative groups to collect signatures in support of the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy;
 - 2) call a vote to recall the deputy;
- 3) approve the text of the ballot on the recall of a deputy, ensure the production of ballots and supply them to precinct commissions;
- 4) establish the results of voting on the recall of a deputy and make a decision on recognizing the deputy as recalled by voters.

District and city commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, when conducting elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus:

- 1) exercise control over compliance by the initiative group of citizens for nominating a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus with the requirements of this Code when collecting signatures and ensure the reliability of data on the number of such signatures;
- 2) sum up the results for the district, city on the number of citizens who put their signatures in support of the proposal to nominate a candidate for President, draw up protocols about this and send them to the regional, Minsk city commission for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

District, city commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, for holding a republican, regional, Minsk city, district, city referendum, except for the powers

provided for in part one of this article, during the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, republican, regional, Minsk city, district, city referendum:

- 1) provide precinct commissions with ballots for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus and ballots for voting on the republican, regional, Minsk city, district, city referendum;
- 2) establish the voting results for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, for the republican, regional, Minsk city referendum in the district, city and report them to the regional, Minsk city commission; establish the results of voting in district and city referendums.

District, city commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, during elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, exercise control over compliance with equal legal conditions for the election activities of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies local Councils of Deputies.

District and city referendum commissions, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, during a referendum, assist the media in explaining the content of the issue submitted to the referendum; ensure the publication of the results of the referendum for the district or city in the local media.

District city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, for the republican, regional, Minsk city referendum exercise the powers of the district, city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus and for the referendum, provided for by this article.

The commissions specified in this article exercise other powers in accordance with this Code and other acts of legislation.

The powers of district, city, city district commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus are terminated after the publication of the results of the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The powers of district and city election commissions are retained until the appointment of elections of deputies on a single voting day.

The powers of district, city, and city-district referendum commissions are terminated after the referendum decision comes into force.

Article 41. Powers of city (in cities of regional subordination), township, rural election commissions, referendum commissions

City (in cities of district subordination), township, rural election commissions, commissions for city, township, rural referendum:

- 1) organize elections of deputies of the city, town, village Council of Deputies, city, town, rural referendum and monitor compliance with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, referendums on the territory of the city, town, village council;
 - 2) manage the activities of precinct commissions;
- 3) hear reports from officials (employees) of local executive and administrative bodies, organizations on issues related to the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums;
- 4) control the compilation of lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, and their presentation for review;

- 5) manage funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections, city, town, and rural referendums; distribute part of the funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of city, town, and rural referendums between precinct commissions and exercise control over the intended use of the allocated funds; control the provision of precinct commissions with premises, transport, communications, consider other issues of material, technical and organizational support for elections, referendums;
- 6) consider applications and complaints about decisions and actions of precinct commissions and make decisions on them.

City, town, and rural election commissions, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, during elections of deputies of the city, town, and rural Council of Deputies:

- 1) excluded;
- 2) register initiative groups of citizens to collect signatures of voters in support of persons proposed for nomination as candidates for deputies; issue members of initiative groups with appropriate certificates;
- 2 ¹) exercise control over the receipt and use of funds from the election funds of persons nominated as candidates for deputies, candidates for deputies;
 - 3) excluded;
- 4) register candidates for deputies, their proxies, representatives on financial issues and issue them appropriate certificates;
- 5) approve the texts of ballots for elections of deputies of the city, town, village Council of Deputies for each electoral district; ensure the production of ballots and supply of them to precinct commissions;
- 6) assist candidates for deputy in organizing meetings with voters in the manner established by this Code;
- 7) exercise control over compliance with equal legal conditions for the election activities of candidates for deputies of the city, town, and rural Council of Deputies;
- 8) sum up the results of elections to the city, town, village Council of Deputies and submit information about this to the district election commission; register elected deputies; publish a message about the election results, a list of elected deputies of the city, town, village Council of Deputies and issue certificates to the elected deputies;
 - 9) excluded;
 - 10) excluded;
 - 11) convene the first session of the newly elected city, town, village Council of Deputies.

City, township, rural referendum commissions, in addition to the powers provided for in part one of this article, when conducting a city, township, rural referendum:

- 1) provide precinct commissions with ballot papers for voting on city, town, and rural referendums;
- 2) establish the results of voting on a city, town, or rural referendum, report them in the local media or otherwise bring them to the attention of citizens.

The commissions specified in this article exercise other powers in accordance with this Code and other acts of legislation.

The powers of city, town, and rural election commissions are terminated 30 days after the elections.

The powers of city, town, and rural referendum commissions are terminated after the referendum decision comes into force.

Article 42. Powers of district election commissions

District election commissions:

- 1) organize elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and monitor compliance with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections in the territory of electoral districts for elections to the House of Representatives, as well as in the territory of electoral districts for elections in the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies formed within the boundaries of the corresponding district for elections to the House of Representatives;
 - 2) manage the activities of precinct election commissions;
- 3) hear reports from officials (employees) of local executive and administrative bodies, organizations on issues related to the preparation and conduct of elections;
- 4) register initiative groups of citizens to collect signatures of voters in support of persons proposed for nomination as candidates for deputies; issue members of initiative groups with appropriate certificates;
 - 5) excluded;
- 6) register candidates for deputies, their proxies, representatives on financial issues and issue them the appropriate certificates;
- 7) exercise control over compliance with equal legal conditions for the election activities of candidates for deputies;
- 8) assist candidates for deputy in organizing meetings with voters in the manner established by this Code;
- 9) control the compilation of lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections and their presentation for review;
- 10) manage the funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections in electoral districts, distribute part of these funds between precinct election commissions, and ensure control over the intended use of the allocated funds; control the provision of precinct election commissions with premises, transport, communications and consider other issues of material, technical and organizational support for elections;
- 10 ¹) exercise control over the receipt and use of funds from election funds of persons nominated as candidates for deputies, candidates for deputies;
- 11) approve the texts of ballots for electoral districts, ensure the production of ballots and supply them to precinct election commissions;
 - 12) establish and publish in the print media the results of elections in electoral districts;
- 13) issue certificates of election to deputies after their registration by the Central Commission, regional, Minsk city election commission, respectively;
 - 14) excluded;

- 15) consider applications and complaints about decisions and actions of precinct election commissions and make decisions on them;
 - 16) exercise other powers in accordance with this Code and other acts of legislation.

The powers of district election commissions terminate 30 days after the elections.

Article 42 ¹. Members of district election commissions with advisory voting rights

A candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives has the right, from the date of his registration, to send to the relevant district election commission a member of the commission with the right of advisory vote.

The term of office of a non-voting member of a district election commission begins on the day the district election commission receives from a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives a written notification of the nomination of a non-voting member of the district election commission. The written notification regarding a member of the district election commission with the right of advisory vote shall indicate the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (identification card number of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus), contact number phone.

A member of the district election commission with the right to an advisory vote is issued a certificate, the form of which is established by the Central Commission.

Candidates for deputies of the House of Representatives, their proxies, representatives on financial issues, as well as candidates for deputies of local Councils of Deputies cannot be members of the district election commission with the right of advisory vote. The same person may be nominated as a member of a district election commission with the right of advisory vote to only one district election commission and only one candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives.

Members of the district election commission with the right of advisory vote are obliged to comply with the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, comply with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, and not commit actions that discredit the district election commission or interfere with its work.

A member of the district election commission with the right of advisory vote has the rights established by this Code related to the organization and conduct of elections of deputies of the House of Representatives.

A member of a district election commission with an advisory vote has the right to:

introduce proposals on issues within its competence to the agenda of a meeting of the district election commission and demand a vote on them;

speak at a meeting of the district election commission;

ask participants of the meeting of the district election commission questions in accordance with the agenda and receive substantive answers to them;

get acquainted with the documents and materials that are considered at the meeting of the district election commission.

A member of the district election commission with the right of advisory vote does not have the right to:

participate in inspections conducted by the district election commission and in voting when the commission makes decisions;

give explanations and instructions, make communications on behalf of the district election commission.

The powers of a member of the district election commission with the right to an advisory vote are terminated early:

at his written request;

by decision of the district election commission when a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives leaves the electoral district;

upon the application of a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives to recall the member of the district election commission assigned by him;

in case of termination of citizenship of the Republic of Belarus.

The powers of a member of a district election commission with the right to an advisory vote may be terminated early by decision of the district election commission if he commits actions that discredit the district election commission or interfere with its work.

In the event of early termination of the powers of a member of the district election commission with the right of advisory vote, the district election commission will cancel the certificate issued to him.

The powers of the members of the district election commission with the right of advisory vote are terminated after the district election commission establishes the results of the election of a deputy of the House of Representatives in the electoral district.

Article 43. Deleted.

Article 44. Powers of the precinct commission for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, precinct election commission, precinct referendum commission, to conduct voting on the recall of a deputy

Precinct commission for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, precinct election commission, precinct commission for referendum, for voting on the recall of a deputy:

- 1) ensures compliance with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, referendums, and on the recall of a deputy on the territory of a voting station;
- 2) clarifies the lists of citizens who have the right to participate in elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, by polling station;
- 3) introduces voters and referendum participants to the list of citizens who have the right to participate in elections, referendums, and recall of a deputy, considers allegations of inaccuracies in the list and decides on making appropriate changes to it;
- 4) notifies voters, referendum participants about the location, working hours and telephone number of the precinct commission, as well as about the day of elections, referendum, voting to recall a deputy, time and place of voting;

- 4 ¹) sends to voters information about candidates for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, presented respectively by the Central Commission, territorial, district election commission;
- 5) ensures the implementation of the right of voters, referendum participants provided for by this Code to vote in elections, referendums early (with the exception of the precinct commission for voting on the recall of a deputy), as well as the safety of ballots;
 - 6) ensures the preparation of the voting premises, voting boxes and other equipment;
 - 6¹) takes measures to provide additional conditions for voting for citizens with disabilities;
- 7) monitors compliance with the rules for posting campaign materials on the territory of the voting station;
- 8) ensures the targeted use of funds allocated for elections, referendums, and recall of a deputy;
 - 9) organizes voting on the day of elections, referendums, or recall of a deputy;
 - 10) conducts vote counting and establishes voting results for the precinct;
- 11) considers applications and complaints regarding the preparation of elections, referendums, voting to recall a deputy, organization of voting, vote counting and makes decisions on them;
- 12) hears reports from officials of local executive and administrative bodies, organizations on issues related to the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy;
 - 13) exercises other powers in accordance with this Code and other acts of legislation.

The powers of precinct commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, precinct election commissions, precinct commissions for a referendum, to conduct a vote on the recall of a deputy shall cease after the completion of elections, a referendum, or a vote on the recall of a deputy on the territory of the voting station.

SECTION IV

PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN, CAMPAIGN FOR A REFERENDUM, RECALL OF A DEPUTY, MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC. FINANCING ELECTIONS, REFERENDUM, RECALL OF DEPUTY, MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC. RESPONSIBILITY FOR VIOLATION OF LEGISLATION ON ELECTIONS, REFERENDUM, RECALL OF A DEPUTY, MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC. VOTING PROCEDURE AND VOTES COUNTING

CHAPTER 10

PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN, CAMPAIGN FOR A REFERENDUM, RECALL OF A DEPUTY, MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 45. Election campaigning, campaigning for a referendum, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic

Citizens of the Republic of Belarus, political parties, other public associations, labor collectives, proxies of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies are given the right to freely and comprehensively discuss the election programs of candidates for

the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, their political, business and personal qualities, conduct campaigning for or against a candidate at meetings, rallies, in the media, the global computer network Internet, as well as during meetings with voters.

Voters, initiative groups, and proxies of a deputy have the right to freely and comprehensively discuss issues related to the recall of a deputy, his business and personal qualities, to campaign for or against the recall of a deputy at meetings, rallies, in the media, the global computer network Internet, and also during meetings with voters.

At a meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies for the election of members of the Council of the Republic or upon the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic, each deputy participating in the meeting has the right to freely and comprehensively discuss the business and personal qualities of candidates for members of the Council of the Republic, a member of the Council of the Republic in respect of whom the question of recall has been raised, campaign for or against nominated candidates for membership in the Council of the Republic, for or against the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic.

Citizens of the Republic of Belarus, political parties, other public associations, and labor collectives are given the right to unhindered campaigning for a proposal to hold a referendum, for the adoption of a question submitted to a referendum, as well as against a proposal to hold a referendum, against the adoption of a question submitted to a referendum.

Foreign citizens and stateless persons do not have the right to take part in campaigning.

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and for deputies hold meetings with their voters at meetings or in another form convenient for voters. By mutual agreement of the candidates, joint meetings with voters may be held.

Local executive and administrative bodies, in agreement with the relevant election commissions, determine premises for holding meetings of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies with voters, as well as for pre-election meetings organized by voters. Applications for the provision of premises are submitted by candidates, candidates' proxies, voters to the relevant territorial and district election commissions no later than two days before the expected date of the event. The application shall indicate the place(s) of the meeting, meeting, date, start and end time of the event; surname, first name, patronymic (if any) of the applicant, information about his place of residence and contact telephone number, date of application. If it is impossible to provide premises on the date and time specified in the application, the relevant election commission, no later than the next day after receiving the application, informs the applicant about this and proposes another date and time for the meeting. Premises for holding meetings with voters and pre-election meetings are provided free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis. Territorial and district election commissions in the media or in other ways inform voters about meetings with candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, as well as about pre-election meetings organized by voters.

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies have the right, at the expense of their own election fund, to rent buildings and premises for holding meetings with voters. Buildings and premises for these purposes are provided to candidates on equal terms.

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, their proxies, in the manner prescribed by <u>Article 45 ¹</u> of this Code, may hold mass events (outdoor meetings, rallies, picketing) for the purpose of pre-election campaigning.

Mass events, the purpose of which is to carry out election campaigning, campaigning for a referendum, or recall a deputy, with the exception of mass events specified in part nine of this article, are held in accordance with the legislation on mass events.

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies have the right to produce campaign materials at the expense of their own election funds. The production of campaign materials is carried out after advance payment from the candidate's election fund. Propaganda materials must be produced on the territory of the Republic of Belarus.

Propaganda printed materials must contain the following release data: name and address of the organization (individual entrepreneur) that produced the printed propaganda materials, number of the certificate of state registration of the manufacturer of printed publications and the date of its issue, circulation and order number, surname and initials of the customer. One copy of printed campaign materials or their copies (reduced copies, layouts, etc.) before distribution is submitted by the candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, respectively, to the Central Commission, territorial, district election commission. Distribution of anonymous propaganda printed materials is prohibited.

When holding elections, a referendum, or a vote to recall a deputy, local executive and administrative bodies, in agreement with the relevant commissions, allocate places on the territory of voting stations that are most visited by citizens for the placement of printed campaign materials. It is prohibited to place printed campaign materials in buildings where commissions are located and in voting premises. The placement of printed propaganda materials in other places may be carried out with the permission of the head of the relevant organization. If the head of an organization has allowed one candidate to place campaign printed material in the organization, he does not have the right to refuse another candidate to place campaign printed material under the same conditions. Executive and administrative bodies may prohibit the placement of printed propaganda materials in places not designated for them.

Removing, gluing, covering up, or damaging printed propaganda materials is not allowed if they are manufactured and placed in compliance with the requirements of the law.

At all voting stations no later than 14 days before the elections, stands with information materials about the candidates are set up. Stands with such information materials are kept in the voting premises and on election day. When holding a referendum, the questions submitted for the referendum must be posted in a visible place in the voting premises.

Campaigning on voting day is not permitted. Printed campaign materials previously posted outside voting premises are retained in their original places. Election campaigning of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy begins 25 days before the elections, referendum campaigning begins from the day of registration of the initiative group for holding a referendum or from the day the referendum is called. Pre-election campaigning and referendum campaigning ends at 24:00 on the day preceding the election day, referendum.

Article 45 ¹. Carrying out mass events organized by candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, and their proxies

Local executive and administrative bodies, in agreement with the relevant election commissions, determine the places where candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, their proxies for the purpose of election campaigning can hold mass events (outdoor meetings, rallies, picketing) in the manner established this article.

To organize a mass event specified in part one of this article, a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, or the candidate's authorized representative sends a written notification to the local executive and administrative body in whose territory it is planned to be held (in the city of Minsk, a notification is sent to the Minsk City Executive committee), no later than two days before the expected date of the event. One notification may contain a message about one mass event. The notification shall indicate the purpose, type of mass event, place(s) of its holding, date, start and end time of the event; surname, first name, patronymic (if any) of the applicant, information about his place of residence and contact telephone number, date of submission of the notification. If the local executive and administrative body has previously received a notification from another candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, or an authorized representative about holding a mass event in the same place and at the same time and there is no agreement to hold a joint mass event, the local executive and administrative body is obliged, no later than the next day after receiving the notification, to bring to the attention of the applicant a proposal to change the place and (or) time of the mass event.

Mass events specified in part one of this article can be held from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Ensuring public order and the safety of citizens during a mass event is the responsibility of the local executive and administrative body and internal affairs bodies. Candidates and their proxies are obliged to help ensure public order.

A mass event, as well as preparations for it, must be stopped at the request of the head or deputy head of the relevant local executive and administrative body, internal affairs body in the following cases:

failure by the candidate or authorized representative to comply with the requirements provided for in parts two and three of this article;

danger to the life and health of citizens.

Article 46. Use of the media in the election campaign and during a referendum

Mass media, the founders (one of the founders) and (or) editorial staff of which are government bodies and organizations, as well as organizations, 50 percent or more of shares (shares in authorized funds) of which are owned by the Republic of Belarus and (or) its administrative territorial units are obliged to provide equal opportunities for election campaign speeches by candidates, publication and disclosure of issues submitted for referendum, election campaigning, referendum campaigning.

A candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus or a deputy of the House of Representatives has the right to publish free of charge his election program in print media from those specified in part one of this article, submitting the text of the program no later than 20

days before the elections. The volume of the election program published free of charge in the print media for a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus cannot exceed five typewritten pages, for a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives - two typewritten pages.

The list of print media in which election programs of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies of the House of Representatives are published free of charge is determined by the Central Commission.

When publishing election programs of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies of the House of Representatives, the order of their entry is observed.

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies of the House of Representatives have the right to free speeches on television and radio. The Central Commission determines television and (or) radio broadcasting media that reserve air time for election campaigning at a rate of at least 60 minutes on weekdays during the last 20 days before election day. At the same time, each candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies of the House of Representatives, registered in the electoral district, must have at least five minutes of air time. The specified airtime should fall during the period when television and radio programs attract the largest audience.

The order and number of speeches by candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies of the House of Representatives on television and radio are established by the Central Commission. Candidates' speeches are provided on an equal basis.

The Central Commission reserves part of the time limit specified in part five of this article for televised debates of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies of the House of Representatives. Televised debates are held with the consent of the candidates. The candidate has the right to authorize a proxy to participate in televised debates. A candidate's non-participation in televised debates does not entail an increase in the amount of airtime provided to the candidate free of charge.

A candidate for deputy of the regional, Minsk city, district, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies has the right to free placement of his election program on the official website of the relevant local executive and administrative body on the global computer network Internet in a special section dedicated to elections.

Journalists and media officials are prohibited from conducting television and radio programs, or participating in the coverage of elections through the media, if these persons are candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies or their proxies, or representatives on financial issues.

Information about the meetings of the Central Commission and other commissions, their decisions are published in the print media, and also posted on the official websites of the Central Commission, local executive and administrative bodies, respectively, on the global computer network Internet.

The media specified in part one of this article are obliged, at the request of the Central Commission, to provide it with the opportunity to transmit information about the progress of the election campaign and preparations for the republican referendum.

During the last five days before elections, referendums, publication or posting on the global computer network Internet of the results of public opinion polls related to elections, referendums, or forecasts of their results is not allowed.

Article 47. Restrictions during election campaigning, referendum campaigning

Campaigning that involves propaganda of war, contains calls for a violent change in the constitutional system, violation of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Belarus, insults and slander against officials of the Republic of Belarus, candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, as well as calls that encourage or have its purpose is to induce disruption, or cancellation, or postponement of elections, referendums appointed in accordance with legislative acts.

Agitation or propaganda of social, racial, national, religious or linguistic superiority, release and distribution of messages and materials that incite social, racial, national or religious hatred are prohibited.

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, their proxies, other citizens and organizations during election campaigning, referendum campaigning are prohibited from distributing funds, gifts and other material assets, conducting preferential sales of goods, providing free of charge any services and goods for with the exception of campaign materials specially manufactured in compliance with the requirements of this Code for an election campaign or referendum. During election campaigning and referendum campaigning, it is prohibited to influence citizens with promises of transferring funds or material assets to them.

Campaigning for a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or for deputy, paid for from the election funds of other candidates, is prohibited.

If the requirements of this article are violated, the relevant commissions take measures to suppress the violations, and the Central Commission, territorial, district election commission also have the right to cancel the decision to register the candidate.

CHAPTER 11 FINANCING ELECTIONS, REFERENDUM, RECALL OF A DEPUTY, MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 48. Expenses for the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic

Expenses for the preparation and conduct of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, deputies of the House of Representatives, members of the Council of the Republic, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, a republican referendum, recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a member of the Council of the Republic are carried out at the expense of the republican budget. Expenses for these purposes can also be made at the expense of political parties, other organizations and citizens of the Republic of Belarus, who can contribute their money to the extra-budgetary fund created by the Central Commission for additional financing of expenses for the preparation and

conduct of elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, republican referendum. Persons nominated as candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, have the right to create their own election funds to finance expenses and services related to the collection of voter signatures, including wages and other payments in accordance with the law to members of the initiative group of citizens for nominating a candidate for Presidents of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, and candidates for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies - to finance the costs of election campaigning.

Expenses for the preparation and conduct of a local referendum, repeat elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies and elections of deputies to replace those who retired, recall of a deputy of a local Council of Deputies are carried out at the expense of the local budget in the manner established by the relevant local Council of Deputies.

Expenses for the preparation and conduct of a local referendum can also be made at the expense of political parties, other organizations located on the territory of the relevant local Council of Deputies, and citizens living in this territory, who can contribute their money to an extra-budgetary fund created by the local Council of Deputies, who called the referendum.

The procedure for the distribution and use of funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections, a republican referendum, the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a member of the Council of the Republic from the republican budget and voluntarily contributed to an extra-budgetary fund is established by the Central Commission.

The Central Commission informs the House of Representatives about the expenditure of funds allocated from the republican budget for the preparation and conduct of elections, a republican referendum no later than six months from the date of election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies, voting on a referendum, recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a member of the Council of the Republic, and also publishes a report on the expenditure of funds from the extra-budgetary fund is posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet.

State bodies and other organizations provide free of charge at the disposal of commissions the premises, equipment, means of communication necessary for the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic (except for payment of subscription fees and negotiations), as well as vehicles (with payment of expenses by commissions from allocated funds).

The media specified in part one <u>of Article 46</u> of this Code shall publish free of charge materials presented by commissions and election programs of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies of the House of Representatives.

Political parties, other organizations, citizens of the Republic of Belarus do not have the right to provide other material assistance for the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, except for contributing funds to an extra-budgetary fund and to the election funds of persons nominated as candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, candidates for the President of the Republic Belarus, for the deputies provided for in part one of this article.

Direct or indirect participation in financing and other material assistance from foreign states and organizations, foreign citizens and stateless persons, international organizations,

organizations whose founders (participants, property owners) are foreign states, foreign organizations, international organizations, foreign citizens and persons are prohibited stateless, during the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic.

The use of funds or other material assistance by a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, as a deputy, or by a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, as a deputy, in violation of the requirements of part nine of this article, entails, accordingly, a refusal to register the candidate or the cancellation of the decision on his registration.

Article 48 ¹. Election funds

Election funds of persons nominated as candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies may be formed from the following funds:

- 1) own funds of a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, a candidate, the amount of which cannot exceed the maximum amount of all expenses from the election fund specified in part two of this article;
- 2) voluntary donations from citizens of the Republic of Belarus. The amount of a citizen's donation during elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus cannot exceed 30 basic units, during elections of deputies of the House of Representatives 10 basic units, deputies of local Councils of Deputies 5 basic units;
- 3) voluntary donations from legal entities. The size of a donation from a legal entity during elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus cannot exceed 60 basic units, during elections of deputies of the House of Representatives 20 basic units, deputies of local Councils of Deputies 10 basic units.

The maximum amount of all expenses from the election fund of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus cannot exceed 10,000 basic units, a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives - 2,000 basic units, a candidate for deputy of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies - 50 basic units, a candidate for deputy of the district, city (city of regional and district subordination), settlement, village Council of Deputies - 20 basic units.

It is prohibited to make donations to election funds:

- 1) foreign states and organizations;
- 2) foreign citizens and stateless persons;
- 3) international organizations;
- 4) organizations whose founders (participants, property owners) are foreign states, foreign organizations, international organizations, foreign citizens and stateless persons;
- 5) organizations that, during the year preceding the day of making the donation, received foreign gratuitous assistance from foreign states represented by their state bodies or diplomatic missions, interstate entities, foreign and international legal entities (organizations that are not legal entities), citizens of the Republic of Belarus, permanently residing outside the Republic of Belarus for more than 183 days during the 12 months preceding the month of provision of foreign gratuitous assistance, foreign citizens and stateless

persons who do not have a permanent residence permit in the Republic of Belarus, as well as from foreign anonymous donors, if the foreign gratuitous assistance received by these organizations was not returned by them or, if return was impossible, was not transferred (transferred) to state revenue before the day the donation was made to the election funds;

- 6) citizens of the Republic of Belarus under 18 years of age;
- 7) state bodies and local government bodies;
- 8) organizations fully or partially financed from the budget;
- 9) organizations registered in accordance with the established procedure less than one year before the date of the donation;
 - 10) charitable and religious organizations;
 - 11) anonymous donors.

To form his own election fund, a person nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, the candidate opens a special election account in a division of the open joint-stock company Savings Bank Belarusbank. The basis for opening an account is the application of the person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, the candidate and a copy of the decision of the Central Commission, territorial, district election commission on registration of an initiative group of citizens to nominate a person as a candidate or a copy of the decision on registration of the candidate.

A person nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, who has opened a special election account, after registering as a candidate, continues to use the same account, submitting to the bank division a copy of the decision of the Central Commission, territorial, district election commission on registration as a candidate. The total amount of all expenses from the funds of this election fund during the period of nomination of a candidate and election campaigning should not exceed the maximum amount of expenses specified in part two of this article.

A person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, the candidate has the right to appoint his representative on financial issues. Registration of a representative on financial issues is carried out by the Central Commission, territorial, district election commissions on the basis of an application from a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, or a candidate. The application shall indicate the surname, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence of the representative on financial matters, series, number and date of issue of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (number and date of issue of an identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus). The relevant commission, within three days from the date of receipt of the application, registers the representative on financial issues and issues him a certificate. The financial representative has the right to open a special election account, manage the funds in this account, and submit reports on the receipt and expenditure of funds. A person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, the candidate has the right at any time to recall a representative on financial issues by reporting this, respectively, to the Central Commission, territorial, district election commission, as well as to the bank branch in which a special election account is opened.

A person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, the candidate has the right to open only one special election account. The procedure for opening an account, conducting transactions on the account, and closing the account is determined by the Central Commission in agreement with the open joint-stock company Savings Bank Belarusbank. There is no fee for bank services for opening an account and conducting account transactions. The bank does not pay interest for the use of funds located in a special election account. Information on the opening of special election accounts is sent by the Central Commission, territorial, district election commissions to the print media for publication, and posted on the official websites of the Central Commission, local executive and administrative bodies on the global computer network Internet.

When making a donation to a special election account, a citizen indicates in the payment document the following information about himself: last name, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth and place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (identification card number of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus) . Voluntary donations from legal entities are made non-cash by transferring funds to a special election account, while the payment order indicates the following information about the legal entity: payer's registration number, name, bank details.

The right to manage the funds of election funds belongs to the persons who created them, nominated candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, and candidates.

A person nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, the candidate may use the funds of the election fund in the manner established by the Central Commission.

A person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, the candidate has the right to return to the donor any donation to the election fund, with the exception of a donation made by an anonymous donor. If a voluntary donation came to the election fund from a donor who does not have the right to make such a donation, or the donation was made in an amount exceeding the amount provided for in part one of this article, the person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, the candidate is obliged no later than within seven days from the date of receipt of the donation to the special election account, return this donation, respectively, in full or that part of it that exceeds the established maximum donation amount, to the donor, indicating the reason for the return.

Control over the receipt and use of election funds is carried out by the Central Commission, territorial and district election commissions and financial authorities.

The bank division in which the special election account is opened submits information on a weekly basis, respectively, to the Central Commission, territorial, and district election commissions about the receipt and expenditure of funds in the account of the corresponding person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, or candidate. Information about the total amount of funds received into the election fund and the total amount of funds spent is sent by the relevant commission within two days after receiving the information to the print media for publication, and is also posted on the official websites of

the Central Commission, local executive and administrative bodies in the global computer network Internet.

A person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, is obliged no later than the fifth day after the end of the period for nominating candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, to submit a financial report to the Central Commission, territorial, district election commission.

The candidate is obliged to submit a financial report to the commission that registered him with the following frequency: the first financial report - no earlier than 15 and no later than 10 days before election day; final financial report - no later than five days from election day.

The financial reports specified in parts fourteen and fifteen of this article must contain information on the size and all sources of the creation of the election fund, as well as on all expenses incurred. The reports are accompanied by primary financial documents confirming the receipt, return and expenditure of funds from the election fund, certificates of remaining funds and (or) closure of a special election account.

The procedure specified in parts fifteen and sixteen of this article also applies to persons in respect of whom decisions to register them as candidates were canceled, and to persons who withdrew their candidacies before election day.

If a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus or a deputy is denied registration, as well as if the decision to register a candidate is canceled or he withdraws his candidacy, the relevant commission informs the bank division in writing about this, which stops all operations under a special electoral account.

All banking operations on a special election account, with the exception of the return of unspent funds to the election fund and the crediting of funds transferred before election day to the specified account, are terminated on election day.

A person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, the candidate, no later than three days from the date of refusal to register the candidate, is obliged to transfer the unspent funds in a special electoral account from the day of elections to citizens and legal entities who made donations to his electoral fund, in proportion to the invested funds. After the specified period, the bank division in which the special election account is opened is obliged to transfer the funds remaining in this account to the income of the republican budget. Based on the petition of a person nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, or candidate, the Central Commission, territorial, district election commission may extend the period for conducting operations on a special election account.

In the event of a second round of voting in the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, operations to pay expenses from the special election accounts of candidates for which the second round of voting is being held are resumed on the day the Central Commission appoints the second round of voting and terminated on the day of the second round of voting.

Foreclosure under writs of execution and other documents that are the basis for writing off funds from accounts in an indisputable manner is not carried out on funds placed in special election accounts, the said funds are not seized, and operations on special election accounts are not suspended.

CHAPTER 12

LIABILITY FOR VIOLATION OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CODE. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

Article 49. Liability for violation of the requirements of this Code

Persons who interfere with the free exercise by a citizen of the Republic of Belarus of the right to freely elect and be elected, to participate in a referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy, disseminating calls that encourage or are intended to induce disruption, or cancellation, or postponement of elections, a referendum, or refusal committing electoral actions that impede the work of commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions, commissions for voting on the recall of a deputy, engaged in campaigning on the day of elections, referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy, as well as members of commissions, officials of government bodies and public associations and other persons who committed forgery of documents regarding elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, deliberately incorrect vote counting or other distortion of voting results, violated the secrecy of voting, failed to submit the necessary documents to the commissions, or failed to comply with their decisions, or allowed the illegal use of funds and material resources during the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic, or those who have committed other violations of the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy and member of the Council of the Republic, bear responsibility established by legislative acts.

If false information about a candidate is disseminated, the Central Commission or the corresponding territorial or district commission has the right, upon a written request from the candidate, to decide to provide him with the opportunity to speak publicly to refute the false information.

If a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, a deputy, or a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, a deputy, his authorized representative or an initiative group of citizens violates the requirements of this Code and other acts in collecting voter signatures in support of the person proposed for nomination as a candidate legislation on elections, the person nominated as a candidate, candidate, initiative group is warned by the relevant territorial, district commission or Central Commission, and in case of repeated violation of the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, the relevant territorial, district commission or Central Commission may refuse registration or cancel decision on registration of a candidate, on registration of an initiative group of citizens to collect signatures of voters in support of a person proposed for nomination as a candidate.

Cancellation of the decision to register an initiative group of citizens to collect voter signatures in support of a person proposed for nomination as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, for violation of the requirements of this Code is carried out in the cases and in the manner provided for in Articles 61 and 65 of this Code.

Refusal to register a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy and cancellation of the decision to register a candidate for violation of the requirements of this Code are carried out in the cases and in the manner provided for in Articles 68^{-1} and 70^{-1} of this Code.

The decision of the Central Commission to issue a warning to a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for a deputy, or an initiative group or a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for a deputy may be appealed by a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for a deputy, or a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus , as a deputy to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days from the date of the decision. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The decision of the district election commission to issue a warning to a person nominated as a candidate for deputy, or an initiative group or a candidate for deputy may be appealed by a person nominated as a candidate for deputy, a candidate for deputy to the relevant regional, Minsk city election commission within three days from the date of the decision, and the decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission can be appealed to the regional, Minsk city court within the same period. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The decision of the territorial election commission to issue a warning to a person nominated as a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies, or an initiative group or a candidate for deputy may be appealed by a person nominated as a candidate for deputy, a candidate for deputy to a higher territorial election commission within three days from the date of the decision, and the decision of the higher territorial election commission within the same period can be appealed to the regional or district court, respectively. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

If a warning is issued to a person nominated as a candidate for deputy, or an initiative group or a candidate for deputy by the regional, Minsk city election commission, the decision may be appealed by the person nominated as a candidate for deputy, candidate for deputy to the Central Commission within three days from the date of the decision. The decision of the Central Commission is appealed in the manner and within the time period provided for in part six of this article.

Article 49 ¹. The procedure and timing for consideration of appeals about violations of the legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic

Appeals about violations of the legislation on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic are submitted to commissions, state bodies and organizations no later than ten days from the day of elections, referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic, unless other deadlines are established hereby Code. Appeals submitted after the established deadlines are left without consideration on the merits, of which the applicants are notified.

Appeals are subject to initial consideration by commissions, government bodies and organizations in the territory of whose activities the issues set out in the appeals arose.

The appeal is submitted by a citizen or his representative, exercising his powers on the basis of a notarized power of attorney or a power of attorney certified in the manner established by paragraph 3 and part one of paragraph 4 of Article 186 of the Civil Code of the Republic of Belarus.

Appeals specified in part one of this article received by commissions, state bodies and organizations are considered within three days from the date of receipt of the appeal, and appeals related to the exercise by citizens of the right to vote, the right to participate in a referendum, received on the day of elections, referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic - within two hours, but no later than the end of voting. Appeals containing information requiring verification are considered no later than ten days from the date of receipt.

The applicant has the right to familiarize himself with materials related to the consideration of his application.

Complaints against commission decisions are considered at commission meetings. The applicant, who has the right to be present during the consideration of the complaint, is informed of the date, time and place of the meeting.

Having considered the complaint, the commission makes one of the following decisions: cancel the appealed decision in whole or in part and make a decision on the merits; refuse to satisfy the complaint;

leave the complaint without consideration if the applicant does not comply with the procedure or deadlines for filing a complaint established by this Code.

A higher commission has the right, if necessary, to consider an appeal on an issue within the competence of a lower commission.

CHAPTER 13

VOTING PROCEDURE DURING ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS, DEPUTIES, REFERENDUM, RECALL OF DEPUTIES

Article 50. Time and place of voting

During elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies, a referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy, voting is carried out from 8 to 20 hours. Precinct commissions, no later than 10 days before elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, notify voters, referendum participants about the day of the elections, referendum, voting on recalling a deputy, the time and place of voting, the telephone number of the commission, and also send voters information about candidates for Presidents of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, represented respectively by the Central Commission, territorial, district election commission.

At voting stations established in military units, places of temporary stay of voters, referendum participants (in hospitals, sanatoriums, rest homes and other temporary places), precinct commissions may declare voting completed before 20:00 if all voters, referendum participants have voted included in the list.

Article 51. Organization of voting at a polling station

Voting is carried out in specially designated premises, in which a sufficient number of booths or rooms for secret voting must be equipped, places for issuing ballots must be determined, and voting boxes must be installed. Voting boxes are installed in such a way that voters, when approaching them, must pass through booths or rooms for secret voting. Voting boxes must be in the field of view of members of the precinct commission and the persons specified in parts five and six of Article 13 of this Code.

The precinct commission is responsible for organizing voting, ensuring the secrecy of the expression of the will of voters and referendum participants, equipping the premises and maintaining the necessary order in them.

On the day of elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, before the start of voting, ballot boxes are checked, sealed or sealed by the chairman of the precinct commission in the presence of at least two-thirds of the commission.

Article 52. Conducting voting at a polling station

Each voter and referendum participant votes personally; voting for other persons is not allowed.

A ballot paper is issued to a voter, referendum participant by a member of the precinct commission on the basis of a list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, after presenting a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus) or another document determined by the Central Commission. Upon receipt of the ballot, the voter or referendum participant signs in the appropriate column of the specified list.

The ballot is filled out by the voter in the secret voting booth or room. When filling out the ballot, the presence of anyone other than the voter is prohibited.

A voter, a referendum participant who does not have the opportunity to fill out a ballot on his own, has the right to invite another person to the booth or room for secret voting at his own discretion, except for members of the precinct and higher commissions, candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, their proxies, as well as persons specified in parts five and six of Article 13 of this Code.

When voting in elections, the voter places any sign in the empty square located to the right of the name of the candidate for whom he votes. If a voter votes against all candidates, he or she places any sign in the empty square located to the right of the line "Against all candidates." When voting in a referendum, if a referendum participant votes for the adoption of the question put to the referendum, he puts any sign in the square under the word "for", and if he votes against the question put to the referendum, he puts any sign in the square under the word "against". A voter voting for the recall of a deputy puts any sign in the square under the words "for recall," and a voter voting against recalling a deputy puts any sign in the square under the words "against recall."

If the name of only one candidate is included in the ballot, then when voting for the candidate, the voter puts any sign in the square under the word "for", and when voting against the candidate, puts any sign in the square under the word "against".

The voter or referendum participant places the completed ballot in the ballot box.

When holding elections of deputies on a single voting day, the voter receives and fills out separately a ballot for the election of a deputy of the House of Representatives and a ballot (ballots) for the election of a deputy of the local Council of Deputies and places them in the ballot box.

In the event of simultaneous elections and a referendum, two or more referendums, the voter receives and fills out a ballot for each of them and places them in the ballot box.

It is prohibited to take the issued ballot outside the voting premises, as well as to take photos and videos of the completed ballot.

If a voter or referendum participant believes that he made a mistake when filling out a ballot, he has the right to contact the member of the precinct commission who issued the ballot with a request to issue him a new ballot to replace the damaged one. A member of the precinct commission, having received a spoiled ballot, which must have the handwritten signature of the voter, referendum participant, issues a new ballot to the voter, referendum participant, making a note about this in the list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, opposite the name voter, referendum participant who made a mistake. The spoiled ballot is canceled, about which an act is drawn up, signed by the chairman or deputy chairman or the secretary and two members of the precinct commission. Repeated issuance of a new ballot to replace a damaged one is not permitted.

Article 53. Early voting in elections, referendums

A voter, referendum participant who does not have the opportunity to take part in voting on the day of the election, referendum, has the right, no earlier than five days before the election, referendum, under conditions excluding control over his expression of will, to fill out a ballot in the premises of the precinct commission and place it in a sealed separate ballot box for voters, referendum participants. Official confirmation of the reasons for the inability of a voter, referendum participant to come to the voting premises on election day, referendum is not required.

Early voting is carried out from 12 to 19 hours without a break in the presence of at least two members of the precinct commission.

On the first day of early voting, ballot boxes are sealed or sealed in the manner prescribed by part three of <u>Article 51</u> of this Code.

During the early voting period, every day after the end of voting time, the chairman or deputy chairman of the precinct commission seals the slot for placing ballots in the voting box with a sheet of paper. The chairman or deputy chairman and a member of the precinct commission put signatures on this sheet. The slot for placing ballots in the voting box is opened daily before the start of early voting by the chairman or deputy chairman of the precinct commission. When sealing and opening the slot for placing ballots in the ballot box, observers, foreign (international) observers, and representatives of the media have the right to be present. The storage of the ballot box is ensured by the chairman of the precinct commission.

During the early voting period, every day the chairman or deputy chairman of the precinct commission draws up a protocol, which indicates the number of ballots received by the precinct

commission, the number of citizens who received voting ballots (on the last day of early voting - the total number of citizens who received voting ballots), the number of spoiled ballots and the number of unused ballots. The protocol is signed by the chairman or deputy chairman and a member of the commission. A copy of the protocol is posted for public viewing in the premises of the precinct commission.

Upon receipt of the ballot, the voter, referendum participant personally signs the list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, and indicates the date of early voting.

Early voting is carried out in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

Early voting is not carried out at voting stations established in places of temporary stay of voters, referendum participants (in hospitals, sanatoriums, rest homes and other temporary places), as well as before the second round of voting in the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 54. Voting at the location of the voter, referendum participant in elections, referendums

The precinct commission is obliged to provide the opportunity to participate in voting for voters, referendum participants who, for health reasons or other valid reasons, will not be able to come to the voting premises on election day, referendum. For these purposes, the precinct commission should have no more than three portable voting boxes. The regional, Minsk city commission for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, the regional, Minsk city election commission, the regional, Minsk city referendum commission has the right, at the request of the precinct commission, if there are objective reasons, to decide to increase the number of portable voting boxes, but not more than by two . The issue of increasing the number of portable boxes is subject to agreement with the Central Commission.

The precinct commission, at the request of voters, referendum participants, expressed in writing or orally, instructs at least two members of the commission to organize voting at the location of these persons on election day, referendum in the following order:

oral and written requests from voters, referendum participants to organize voting at their location on election day, referendum are entered into a specially compiled list signed by the chairman or secretary of the precinct commission, which indicates data about these persons provided for in the list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendum. Official confirmation of the reasons for the inability to come to the voting premises is not required. Voters and referendum participants may apply to organize voting at their location on election day, referendum at any time after the formation of a precinct commission, and on voting day no later than two hours before the end of voting time;

members of the precinct commission receive ballots and sign for their receipt. The total number of ballots issued cannot exceed by more than 5 percent the number of requests received by the time of departure of voters, referendum participants (but not less than two ballots);

To organize voting at the location of voters, referendum participants, the chairman or secretary of the precinct commission from the main list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, writes out all the data about these persons on a separate loose sheet

and signs it. Voters, referendum participants voting at their location, sign this insert sheet with their own hand upon receipt of the ballot. Then, in the main list of citizens entitled to participate in elections or referendums, a note is made that these persons voted at their location. Insert sheets of the list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, in which voters, referendum participants who voted at their location are recorded, must be stored together with the main list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums.

Voting at the location of voters and referendum participants is carried out in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

CHAPTER 14 COUNTING OF VOTES AT A VOTING SITE DURING ELECTIONS, REFERENDUM

Article 55. Counting of votes at a polling station during elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies, referendum

The voting boxes are opened by the precinct commission after the chairman of the commission announces the end of voting. Opening of ballot boxes before the end of voting is prohibited. Before opening ballot boxes, the number of unused ballots is counted and announced, which are then canceled, bagged and sealed. The method of canceling ballots is determined by the precinct commission. The packages are inscribed with the precinct number and the number of unused ballots for elections and referendums. The packages are signed by the chairman and secretary of the precinct commission in the presence of commission members.

The opening of ballot boxes and the counting of votes during elections and referendums are carried out one by one: first, the ballots that were in the voting box used during early voting are counted, then those in the portable boxes used during voting at the location of voters, referendum participants, and then this - in the ballot boxes that were located on the day of the election, referendum in the premises of the polling station. The results of the vote count are announced by the chairman of the commission.

The counting of votes of voters and referendum participants must be carried out directly by members of the precinct commission without interruption until the voting results are received.

During the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, a deputy of the House of Representatives, the counting of votes at the polling station is carried out separately for each candidate for President, for deputies of the House of Representatives, and in the elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies - separately for each electoral district and each candidate for deputy for elections to the corresponding local Council of Deputies.

The precinct commission, based on the list of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, establishes the total number of voters, referendum participants in the precinct, and during elections to local Councils of Deputies - for each electoral district, as well as the number of voters, referendum participants who received ballots.

Based on the ballots located in the voting boxes specified in part two of this article, the precinct commission, first separately and then summing up the data, establishes:

during elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives - the total number of voters who took part in voting, including the number of voters who took part in early voting, the number of voters who took part in voting at their location, and the number of voters who took part in voting on election day in the premises of a polling station; the number of votes cast for each candidate for President, deputy, and the number of votes cast against all candidates for President, deputy (if voting was carried out on one candidate, the number of votes cast against the candidate); number of ballots declared invalid;

during elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies - for each electoral district, the total number of voters who took part in voting, including the number of voters who took part in early voting, the number of voters who took part in voting at their location, and the number of voters who took part in voting on election day in the premises of a polling station, the number of votes cast for each candidate for deputy, and the number of votes cast against all candidates for deputy (if voting was carried out on one candidate, the number of votes cast against the candidate), the number of ballots, declared invalid;

when holding a referendum - the total number of referendum participants who took part in voting, including the number of referendum participants who took part in voting at their location, and the number of referendum participants who took part in voting on the day referendum in the premises of the voting station, the number of referendum participants who voted for the approval of the question put to the referendum, and the number of those who voted against its approval, the number of ballots declared invalid.

It is prohibited to make changes to the lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections or referendums after the vote counting has begun.

During elections, referendums, ballots of an unspecified sample, ballots on the back of which there are no signatures of persons included in the precinct commission, and during elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies - also ballots in which the sign is placed in more than one square or is not placed in any of them, or ballots in which the name of only one candidate is included and the sign is placed in two squares or not in any of them, and during a referendum - also ballots in which the sign is placed in two squares or not placed in none of them.

If there is any doubt about the validity of the ballot, the question is resolved by the precinct commission by voting. At the same time, on the reverse side of each of these ballots, an entry is made indicating that it is recognized as valid or invalid. This record is certified by the signatures of at least two persons who are members of the precinct commission. Invalid ballots are packaged separately.

After the vote count is completed, a meeting of the precinct commission is held, at which the results of the vote count are established and entered into the protocol. The protocol, in addition to the data provided for in parts five and six of this article, indicates the number of ballots received by the precinct commission, the number of spoiled ballots, and the number of unused ballots. When holding elections of deputies on a single voting day, the protocol is drawn up separately for the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives and for the elections

of deputies of local Councils of Deputies, while for the elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies the protocol is drawn up separately for each electoral district. In the event of holding elections and a referendum at the same time, or two or more referendums, a protocol for each of them is drawn up separately. It is not allowed to fill out the protocol in pencil and make any corrections to it. The protocol is signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and members of the commission. At a meeting of the precinct commission, dissenting opinions of commission members, if any, are considered, as well as complaints and statements about violations during voting or vote counting.

After its signing, a copy of the protocol of the precinct commission is posted for public viewing in a place established by the commission.

When holding elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, republican, regional, Minsk city referendum, the protocol after establishing the results of the vote count is personally submitted by the chairman, or deputy chairman, or secretary of the precinct commission to the appropriate district, city, city district commission for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, for the referendum, during elections of deputies - to the relevant district, territorial election commission. Attached, if any, to the protocol sent to the higher commission are special opinions of the commission members, statements of candidates' proxies and other persons about violations committed during voting or during the counting of votes, and the commission's decisions taken on them.

SPECIAL PART

SECTION V

ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS, DEPUTIES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DEPUTIES OF LOCAL COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES

CHAPTER 15

ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS AND DEPUTIES

Article 56. Calling elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies

Elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus are called by the House of Representatives no later than five months in advance and are held on Sunday no later than two months before the expiration of the term of office of the previous President.

If the position of the President is vacant, elections are held no earlier than 30 days and no later than 70 days from the date the vacancy opens. At the same time, shortened deadlines for holding election events are established by the Central Commission.

Elections to the House of Representatives and local Councils of Deputies of a new convocation are called by the President of the Republic of Belarus no later than three months before the single voting day.

Elections of deputies are held on a single voting day on the last Sunday of February of the fifth year of powers of the Parliament of the Republic of Belarus and local Councils of Deputies.

When dissolving the House of Representatives in cases and in the manner provided for by the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, the President simultaneously calls elections to the House of Representatives of a new convocation. Extraordinary elections to the House of Representatives are held within three months from the date of early termination of the powers of the House of Representatives of the current convocation. In the event of the dissolution of the House of Representatives, the newly elected composition of the House of Representatives shall exercise its powers until the beginning of the powers of the House of Representatives elected on a single voting day.

In the event of the dissolution of the local Council of Deputies, elections to this local Council of Deputies are called by the President of the Republic of Belarus no later than one month from the date of its dissolution and are carried out in compliance with the requirements of this Code. In the event of the dissolution of the local Council of Deputies, the newly elected composition of this Council of Deputies shall exercise its powers until the beginning of the powers of the local Council of Deputies elected on a single voting day.

The message about election day is made public (published) in the media and posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the Internet the next day after the election is called.

Article 57. Requirements for candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies

A citizen of the Republic of Belarus by birth, not younger than 40 years of age, who has the right to vote and has permanently resided in the Republic of Belarus for at least 20 years immediately before the elections, who does not have and has not previously had citizenship of a foreign state or a residence permit or other document, may be elected President of the Republic of Belarus a foreign state giving the right to benefits and other advantages.

The same person can serve as President of the Republic of Belarus for no more than two terms.

A citizen of the Republic of Belarus who has reached the age of 21 and permanently resides in the Republic of Belarus can be elected as a deputy of the House of Representatives.

A citizen of the Republic of Belarus who has reached the age of 18 can be elected as a deputy of the local Council of Deputies.

Article 58. The right of citizens of the Russian Federation living in the Republic of Belarus to participate in elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies

Citizens of the Russian Federation permanently residing in the Republic of Belarus have the right, in the manner prescribed by this Code, to participate in the elections of deputies to local Councils of Deputies in accordance with the international treaty between the Republic of Belarus and the Russian Federation.

Article 59. Incompatibility of the status of a deputy with his official position, as well as with the corresponding powers

It is not allowed to combine the duties of a deputy of the House of Representatives with the simultaneous holding of the position of the President of the Republic of Belarus or a judge.

A deputy of the House of Representatives cannot simultaneously be a member of the Council of the Republic, a member of the Government of the Republic of Belarus, or a deputy of the local Council of Deputies.

Chairmen of regional, Minsk city, district, city (except for cities of regional subordination) executive committees, as well as judges cannot be deputies of local Councils of Deputies.

A deputy of the local Council of Deputies cannot simultaneously be a deputy of the House of Representatives.

The persons specified in parts one to four of this article may be registered as deputy candidates if they indicate in the appropriate application to the election commission:

on the release of their position as an employee or on the termination of the powers of a member of the Council of the Republic, a deputy of the local Council of Deputies when elected as a deputy of the House of Representatives;

on the release of their position as an employee or on the termination of the powers of a deputy of the House of Representatives when elected as a deputy of the local Council of Deputies.

Article 60. The right and terms of nominating candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus are nominated by citizens of the Republic of Belarus if there are at least 100 thousand voter signatures.

The nomination of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus begins 80 days and ends 50 days before the elections.

The right to nominate candidates for deputies belongs to political parties registered by the Ministry of Justice no later than six months before the appointment of elections, labor collectives, as well as citizens by collecting signatures.

The nomination of candidates for deputies begins 70 days and ends 40 days before the elections.

A citizen can be nominated as a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives in only one electoral district, and as a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies - in one electoral district for elections to the local Council of Deputies of the corresponding territorial level. The same person cannot simultaneously be nominated as a candidate for deputies of the House of Representatives and for deputies of the local Council of Deputies.

Candidates for deputies of local Councils of Deputies can be nominated by citizens living or working on the territory of the corresponding local Council of Deputies, as well as working in organizations located on the territory of another local Council of Deputies, but related to meeting the needs of the population and the social development of the territory of this local Council of Deputies.

Citizens against whom there is a court conviction that has entered into legal force cannot be nominated as candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus or deputies of the House of Representatives.

Citizens who have an unexpunged or outstanding criminal record cannot be nominated as candidates for deputies of local Councils of Deputies.

Citizens who have citizenship (nationality) of another state and (or) documents of foreign states that provide rights to benefits and advantages in connection with political, religious views or nationality cannot be nominated as candidates for deputies, except for the case provided for in Article 58 of this Code .

Article 61. Procedure for nominating candidates for President of the Republic of Belarus

Nomination of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus by citizens is carried out by an initiative group of voters (hereinafter referred to as the initiative group) of at least 100 people.

To register an initiative group with the Central Commission, no later than 85 days before the elections, a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus must submit:

a written application for registration of an initiative group, which indicates the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence, length of residence on the territory of the Republic of Belarus, party membership of the person, intending to run as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus;

copies of passport pages confirming citizenship of the Republic of Belarus and registration on the territory of the Republic of Belarus (copy of the front side of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus) of a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus;

a list of members of the initiative group indicating the head of the initiative group and coordinators for districts, cities of regional subordination, districts in cities, if the collection of signatures will be carried out on their territory. In the list of members of the initiative group, for each member of the initiative group the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (number of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus) are indicated. The list also indicates the surname, first name and patronymic (if any) of the person proposed for nomination as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus. The list of members of the initiative group is presented in printed and electronic form.

A person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus submits to the Central Commission the documents specified in part two of this article and presents a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus). Documents can be submitted to the Central Commission by a representative of a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, exercising his powers on the basis of a notarized power of attorney or a

power of attorney certified in the manner established by paragraph 3 and part one of paragraph 4 of Article 186 of the Civil Code of the Republic of Belarus.

A person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, or the head of an initiative group, has the right to make changes to the documents submitted for registration of the initiative group no later than one day before the Central Commission considers the issue of registering the initiative group, as well as to get acquainted with the materials of verification of these documents.

The Central Commission considers the application within five days from the date of its receipt, registers the initiative group and issues to the members of the initiative group the appropriate certificates and signature sheets for collecting voter signatures in support of the person proposed to be nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter referred to as the signature sheet). Registration of an initiative group is denied in case of violation of the requirements of this Code.

The Central Commission has the right, without prior warning, to cancel the decision to register an initiative group in the event of repeated violation by members of the initiative group of the requirements of this Code, if a warning was previously issued.

The decision to refuse to register an initiative group or to cancel the decision to register an initiative group may be appealed within three days from the date of the decision to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus, respectively, by a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate, or by a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus considers the complaint within three days.

The Central Commission cancels the decision to register an initiative group on the basis of an application from a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The signature sheet indicates the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city; urban-type settlement or rural settlement indicating the district), party affiliation of the person proposed for nomination as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, as well as the last name, first name and patronymic (if any) of the member of the initiative group collecting signatures, and the registration number of the initiative group.

The signature sheet must contain the signatures of voters living in the territory of only one city of regional subordination, district, and in cities with regional division - one district.

A voter has the right to sign in support of a person proposed for nomination as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus only once.

The signature sheet for a voter supporting a person proposed for nomination as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus shall indicate the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (citizen identification card number Republic of Belarus) or details of another document determined by the Central Commission. Voter information is entered into the signature sheet in handwriting. The voter personally puts the signature date on the signature sheet and signs. Signatures are numbered.

Participation of the organization's administration in the collection of signatures, as well as coercion in the process of collecting signatures and rewarding voters for submitting a signature, is not permitted. Violation of these requirements may be grounds for refusal to register or cancellation of the decision to register a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The collection of voter signatures can be carried out in the form of picketing. Obtaining permission to conduct picketing for these purposes is not required if it is carried out in places not prohibited by local executive and administrative bodies.

The signature sheet is certified by the member of the initiative group who collected the signatures. When certifying the signature sheet, a member of the initiative group puts a signature and the date of its entry, and also indicates the surname and initials.

Voters who have nominated a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus have the right, before submitting signature sheets to the district, city, city district commission for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, to remove their signatures from the signature sheets by submitting an application to the said commissions.

Coordinators for districts, cities, districts in cities submit signature sheets no later than 50 days before the elections to the district, city, district commission for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, which within ten days verifies the authenticity of voters' signatures in the signature sheets and ensures the accuracy of the data about the number of such signatures. At least 20 percent of voter signatures on signature sheets submitted to the relevant commission are subject to verification.

The procedure for selecting signature sheets for verification is determined at a meeting of the relevant commission. Based on the results of checking the accuracy of the data in the signature sheets, the voter's signature is recognized as reliable or unreliable.

The signatures of voters and the data corresponding to them are not subject to verification and recording if they are on the signature sheets, but excluded (crossed out) by a member of the initiative group who collected the signatures before submitting the signature sheets to the relevant commission, if this exception is specifically agreed upon in writing by him. Voter signatures and corresponding data are also not subject to verification and recording if the signature sheet does not contain information about the person nominated as a candidate.

If the signature sheet received by the district, city, district commission in a city contains signatures of voters living in the territory of different districts, cities of regional subordination, districts in the city, only signatures collected in the territory of that district, city, district are subject to verification and recording in the city where the commission to which this subscription sheet was submitted was formed. Other signatures are not verified and are not taken into account.

The following are considered invalid signatures:

fictitious signatures (executed on behalf of non-existent persons and presented as valid);

voter signatures made on behalf of different persons by one person or on behalf of one person by another person;

signatures of persons who do not have the right to vote;

signatures of voters who indicated data on the signature sheet that does not correspond to reality;

signatures of voters collected before the deadline for nominating candidates;

signatures of voters, if information about them lacks one or more data required by this Code;

signatures of voters, if data about them is entered into the signature sheet in a non-handwritten manner or in pencil, as well as signatures, the dates of which were entered by voters not in their own hand;

all voter signatures on the signature sheet, if the signatures were collected by a person who is not a member of the initiative group, or if the signature sheet is not certified by a member of the initiative group or certified by another member of the initiative group who did not collect these signatures;

voter signatures collected in violation of the requirements of part thirteen of this article.

If multiple signatures from the same voter are found in support of the nomination of the same candidate, only one signature is considered valid, and the remaining signatures are considered invalid.

If the number of invalid signatures of voters discovered during verification is more than 15 percent of the number of verified signatures, an additional verification of another 15 percent of voter signatures is carried out from the number of signatures on the signature sheets submitted to the relevant commission.

If the total number of invalid voter signatures identified during checks is more than 15 percent of the total number of verified signatures on signature sheets, all voter signatures on submitted signature sheets are not taken into account when determining the result of collecting voter signatures in a district, city, or district within a city.

If necessary, the regional and Minsk city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus can also check the authenticity of voters' signatures on the signature sheets within five days.

Based on the protocols of district, city, city district commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus on establishing the number of voters who put their signatures in the signature sheets on the nomination of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, and the results of checks carried out by the regional, Minsk city commission on the authenticity of voters' signatures in the signature sheets the regional, Minsk city commission for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus sums up the results for the region, the city of Minsk, draws up a protocol about this and immediately sends it to the Central Commission.

Article 62. Procedure for nominating candidates for deputies by political parties

The nomination of candidates for deputies of the House of Representatives from political parties is carried out by the highest bodies of political parties.

The nomination of candidates for deputies of regional, Minsk city, district, city (cities of regional subordination) Councils of Deputies from political parties is carried out accordingly by the governing bodies of regional, Minsk city, district, city organizational structures created in the prescribed manner before the appointment of elections.

The nomination of candidates for deputies of city (cities of regional subordination), township and village Councils of Deputies from political parties is carried out accordingly by the governing bodies of district, city organizational structures created in the prescribed manner before the appointment of elections. Candidates for deputies of city (cities of regional subordination), township and rural Councils of Deputies can be nominated by primary organizations of political parties created on the territory of these local Councils of Deputies in the prescribed manner before the appointment of elections.

A political party has the right to nominate for each electoral district for elections to the House of Representatives, the corresponding local Council of Deputies only one candidate for deputy from among the members of this political party.

A list of registered political parties, copies of their state registration certificates and charters are submitted by the Ministry of Justice to the Central Commission no later than five days after the election is called. These materials are posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet.

Article 63. The procedure for nominating candidates for deputies of the House of Representatives by labor collectives

Nomination of candidates for deputies of the House of Representatives from labor collectives of organizations is carried out at meetings (conferences) of voters in labor collectives.

Meetings (conferences) of voters in labor collectives of organizations located in the territory of the electoral district, numbering at least 300 people working and having the rights of a legal entity, are convened by the administration of the organization both on its own initiative and on the initiative of a group of voters of at least 150 people working In the organisation.

If the administration rejects a proposal to hold a meeting (conference) at the initiative of a group of voters, its initiators are given a copy of the reasoned decision. This decision can be appealed by the initiators of convening the meeting to a district or city court within three days from the date of the decision (the complaint must be signed by the majority of the initiators of convening the meeting). The court's decision is final.

More than half of the workforce must be present at the meeting. Conferences in work collectives are held if convening meetings is difficult due to the large number of workers, multiple shifts or territorial disunity of structural units, and at least two thirds of the delegates elected in the manner established by the work collective are eligible to participate in their work. The decision of the meeting (conference) of the labor collective is made by a majority vote of its participants.

A candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives may be nominated from several smaller groups with a total number of employees of at least 300 people at their general meeting. At the same time, more than half of its composition must be present from each labor collective of an organization that has the rights of a legal entity.

The labor collective can nominate only one candidate for deputies of the House of Representatives.

Article 64. The procedure for nominating candidates for deputies of local Councils of Deputies by labor collectives

Nomination of candidates for deputies of local Councils of Deputies from labor collectives of organizations is carried out at meetings (conferences) of voters in labor collectives.

The nomination of candidates for deputies of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies is carried out by labor collectives located on the territory of the corresponding electoral district, and candidates for deputies of the district, city, town, village Council of Deputies - by labor collectives located on the territory of the corresponding local Council of Deputies.

Meetings (conferences) of voters in labor collectives of organizations are convened by the administration of the organization both on its own initiative and on the initiative of a group of voters of at least 10 people working in the organization. Meetings of voters in labor collectives to nominate candidates for deputies may be held:

when nominating candidates for deputies of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies - in teams of at least 150 employees;

when nominating candidates for deputies of the district, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies - in teams of at least 75 employees;

when nominating candidates for deputies of the city (city of regional subordination), settlement, village Council of Deputies - in teams of at least 20 employees.

An appeal against the administration's refusal to hold a meeting (conference), determination of the competence of the meeting (conference) of the labor collective and the decision made are carried out in the manner prescribed by parts three and four of Article 63 of this <u>Code</u>.

A candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies may be nominated from several smaller labor collectives with the total number of employees established by part three of this article at their general meeting. The meeting is valid if more than half of its members from each such collective of the organization are present.

Meetings of voters to nominate candidates for deputies of local Councils of Deputies may be held by structural divisions of organizations, provided that their numerical composition when nominating a candidate for deputies of the relevant local Council of Deputies meets the requirements of part three of this article. In the manner prescribed by part five of this article, a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies may be nominated from several structural divisions or from several labor collectives and structural divisions at their general meeting. When nominating a candidate for deputy in a structural unit (structural divisions), the nomination of a candidate for deputy from the entire workforce is not carried out.

The labor collective of an organization or the collectives of its structural divisions, in compliance with the requirements of part three of this article, has the right to nominate only one candidate for deputy of each territorial level of local Councils of Deputies.

Article 65. Procedure for nominating candidates for deputies by collecting voter signatures

Nomination of a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives by collecting signatures of voters is carried out by a group of voters (initiative group) of at least 10 people,

and a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies is carried out by an initiative group of 3 to 10 people. To register an initiative group, no later than 65 days before the elections, a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy submits to the relevant district or territorial election commission:

a written application for registration of an initiative group, which indicates the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence, party affiliation of the person intending to be nominated as a candidate for deputy;

copies of passport pages confirming citizenship of the Republic of Belarus and registration on the territory of the Republic of Belarus (copy of the front side of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus) of a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy;

a list of members of the initiative group, in which, for each member of the initiative group and its leader, the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus are indicated (number of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus). The list also indicates the last name, first name and patronymic of the person proposed for nomination as a candidate for deputy. The list of members of the initiative group is presented in printed form.

A person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy has the right to submit an application for registration of an initiative group only in one electoral district for the election of a deputy of the House of Representatives or in one electoral district for the election of a deputy of the local Council of Deputies of one or more territorial levels.

A person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy submits to the relevant district or territorial election commission the documents specified in part one of this article and presents a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus). Documents can be submitted to the district or territorial election commission by a representative of a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy, exercising his powers on the basis of a notarized power of attorney or a power of attorney certified in the manner established by paragraph 3 and part one of paragraph 4 of Article 186 of the Civil Code of the Republic of <u>Belarus</u>.

A person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy, or the head of an initiative group, has the right to make changes to the documents submitted for registration of the initiative group no later than one day before the district or territorial election commission considers the issue of registering the initiative group, as well as to become familiar with the verification materials these documents.

The district, territorial election commission considers the application within five days from the date of its receipt, registers the initiative group and issues to the members of the initiative group the appropriate certificates and signature sheets for collecting voter signatures in support of the person proposed for nomination as a candidate for deputy (hereinafter referred to as the signature sheet) . Registration of an initiative group is denied in case of violation of the requirements of this Code.

The decision of the district election commission to refuse to register an initiative group for nomination as a candidate for deputy may be appealed by a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy to the relevant regional, Minsk city election commission within three days from the date of the decision, and the decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission commission within the same period can be appealed to the regional or Minsk City Court. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The decision of the territorial election commission to refuse to register an initiative group to nominate a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies may be appealed by a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy to a higher territorial election commission within three days from the date of the decision, and the decision of a higher territorial election commission in the same period can be appealed, respectively, to the regional or district court. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The district or territorial election commission has the right, without prior warning, to cancel the decision to register an initiative group in the event of repeated violation by members of the initiative group of the requirements of this Code, if a warning was previously issued.

The district or territorial election commission, without prior warning, cancels the decision to register an initiative group if the person nominated as a candidate for deputy fails to comply with the requirements provided for in part two of this article. Decisions on registration of all initiative groups collecting voter signatures in support of such a person are subject to cancellation.

The decision of a district or territorial election commission to cancel the decision to register an initiative group may be appealed by a person nominated as a candidate for deputy to a higher territorial election commission within three days from the date of the decision, and the decision of a higher territorial election commission within the same period may be appealed accordingly to the regional, Minsk city, district court. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The district or territorial election commission cancels the decision to register an initiative group on the basis of an application from a person nominated as a candidate for deputy, submitted to the relevant commission.

A person proposed for nomination as a candidate for the House of Representatives in an electoral district by a group of voters must be supported by at least 1,000 voters living in the territory of this electoral district, and a person proposed for nomination as a candidate for a deputy of the local Council of Deputies must be supported by at least one percent of voters, living in the territory of a given electoral district, but not less than 10 voters. The decision of the territorial election commission on the number of voter signatures required to register a candidate for each electoral district for elections to the relevant local Council of Deputies, no later than 70 days before the elections, is sent to the print media for publication, as well as to the relevant local executive and administrative authority for placement on the official website on the global computer network Internet. The specified decision of the city (city of district subordination), settlement, rural election commission within the same period may be brought to the attention of citizens in another way.

The signature sheets must contain the signatures of voters living in the territory of the electoral district.

The collection of voter signatures for the nomination of a candidate for deputy and the certification of the signature sheet are carried out in the manner prescribed by parts nine, eleven to fifteen of Article 61 of this Code. Violation of the requirements of part thirteen of Article 61 of this Code may be grounds for refusing to register a candidate for deputy or canceling the decision on his registration.

Voters who nominated a candidate for deputy by collecting signatures have the right, before submitting signature sheets to the district or territorial election commission, to remove their signatures from the signature sheets by submitting an application to the relevant election commission.

Article 66. Documents on the nomination of a candidate for deputy submitted to the district, territorial election commission

On the nomination of a candidate for deputy, the highest bodies of political parties, governing bodies of organizational structures of political parties, meetings of primary organizations of political parties, meetings (conferences) of voters in labor collectives make decisions that are recorded in the minutes. The protocol shall indicate the name of the supreme body of the political party, the governing body of the organizational structure of the political party, the primary organization of the political party, data on the labor collective, their addresses and telephone numbers, the number of members of the body of the political party, the labor collective, the number of participants in the meeting of the body, meeting of the primary organization of the political party party, meeting (conference) of the team, date of the meeting, meeting (conference), voting results, decision made indicating the last name, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, employee position (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and the place of residence, party affiliation of the person nominated as a candidate for deputy, and the electoral district in which he was nominated.

A person nominated as a candidate for deputy, no later than 40 days before the election, submits to the relevant district or territorial election commission simultaneously all documents for registration as a candidate and presents a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus). Documents can be submitted to the district or territorial election commission by a representative of a person nominated as a candidate for deputy, exercising his powers on the basis of a notarized power of attorney or a power of attorney certified in the manner established by paragraph 3 and part one of paragraph 4 of Article 186 of the Civil Code of the Republic of Belarus .

To register a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives, a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies, the following must be submitted to the district or territorial election commission:

a written statement of consent to run for office in this electoral district;

copies of passport pages confirming citizenship of the Republic of Belarus and registration on the territory of the Republic of Belarus (copy of the front side of the identification card of a

citizen of the Republic of Belarus) - for persons nominated as candidates for deputies by political parties and labor collectives;

biographical data of the person nominated as a candidate for deputy, in the form established by the Central Commission. If a person nominated as a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies has previously had a criminal record and (or) has a criminal record, information about this is indicated in the biographical data;

certificates or copies of documents confirming information about the education, place of work, position held as an employee (profession of a worker, occupation) of the person nominated as a candidate for deputy, indicated in the documents on the nomination of the candidate;

a written statement of consent, when elected as a deputy, to the dismissal of an employee (worker's profession) from his position or to the termination of the corresponding powers - for the persons specified in parts one to four of Article 59 of this <u>Code</u>;

declaration of income and property of a person nominated as a candidate for deputies of the House of Representatives, regional, Minsk city, district, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies, in the form approved by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus. If the person nominated as a candidate for deputy has no income for the declared period, the source of livelihood is indicated in the declaration. A person nominated as a candidate for deputy has the right to make corrections to the declaration of income and property before it is sent for verification to government bodies and organizations. Corrections are made by crossing out incorrect information and indicating correct information or information that supplements the declaration, or by submitting an updated declaration.

When nominating a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives by a political party for registration, in addition to the documents specified in part three of this article, the following are submitted:

protocol of the highest body of a political party on the nomination of a candidate for deputy;

a copy of a document confirming membership in the political party of the person nominated as a candidate for deputy.

When nominating a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives by the labor collective of the organization, for registration, in addition to the documents specified in part three of this article, the following are submitted:

minutes of the meeting (conference) of the organization's labor collective on the nomination of a candidate for deputy;

a copy of the certificate of state registration of the organization.

When nominating a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives, a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies by collecting signatures of voters for registration, in addition to the documents specified in part three of this article, signature sheets are submitted. A person nominated as a candidate for deputy and who has created an election fund additionally submits to the relevant district or territorial election commission a financial report on the expenditure of funds from this fund within the period established by part fourteen of Article 48 1 of this ^{Code}.

When nominating a candidate for deputy of a local Council of Deputies by a political party for registration, in addition to the documents specified in part three of this article, the following are submitted:

protocol of the governing body of the organizational structure (meeting of the primary organization) of a political party on the nomination of a candidate for deputy;

a copy of the certificate of state registration (registration) of the organizational structure of the political party that nominated the candidate for deputy;

a copy of a document confirming membership in the political party of the person nominated as a candidate for deputy.

If candidates for deputies from one political party are nominated to the district, city, settlement, rural Council of Deputies in several or all electoral districts, then the documents specified in paragraph three of part seven of this article are submitted to the relevant territorial election commission in one copy.

When a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies is nominated by the labor collective of the organization or the collective of its structural unit for registration, in addition to the documents specified in part three of this article, the minutes of the meeting (conference) of the labor collective of the organization or the meeting of its structural subdivision on the nomination of the candidate for deputy are submitted for registration.

Article 67. Verification of the authenticity of voters' signatures in signature sheets for elections of deputies

District and territorial election commissions verify the authenticity of voters' signatures. In this case, at least 20 percent of the signatures of voters in the signature sheets of the number of signatures required to register a candidate for deputy must be verified.

Recognition of voter signatures on signature sheets as authentic is carried out in the manner prescribed by parts eighteen, nineteen, twenty-one and twenty-two of <u>Article 61</u> of this Code. If the signature sheet contains signatures of voters who do not live in the territory of the electoral district, these signatures are not verified and are not taken into account.

If the number of invalid signatures of voters discovered during verification is more than 15 percent of the number of verified signatures, an additional verification of another 15 percent of voter signatures is carried out from the number of signatures required to register a candidate for deputy.

District and territorial election commissions draw up protocols on the results of checking the authenticity of voters' signatures on signature sheets.

Article 68. Registration of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies

Registration of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus is carried out by the Central Commission, and candidates for deputies - by the corresponding district and territorial election commission.

Registration of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus begins 35 days and ends 25 days before the elections, and candidates for deputies begins 40 days and ends 25 days before the elections.

In some cases, the period for registration of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies of the House of Representatives, by reasoned decision of the Central Commission, may be extended, but not more than by five days, and the period for registration of candidates for deputies of local Councils of Deputies - by the relevant district, territorial or higher election commission for the same period.

A person nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, in the manner prescribed by part three <u>of Article 61</u> of this Code, submits the following documents to the Central Commission before registration begins:

a written statement of consent to run as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus;

biographical data of the person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, in the form established by the Central Commission;

certificates or copies of documents confirming information about the education, place of work, position held as an employee (worker's profession, occupation) of the person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, indicated in the documents on the nomination of the candidate;

declaration of income and property of a person nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, his spouse and adult close relatives living with him and running a common household, in a form approved by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus. If a person nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus does not have income for the declared period, the source of livelihood is indicated in the declaration. Persons who have submitted declarations of income and property have the right to make corrections to them before sending these declarations for verification to government bodies and organizations. Corrections are made by crossing out incorrect information and indicating correct information or information that supplements the declaration, or by submitting an updated declaration.

A person nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus and who has created an election fund submits to the Central Commission a financial report on the expenditure of funds from this fund within the period established by part fourteen of Article 48 1 of this Code.

The Central Commission, the corresponding district, territorial election commission checks the compliance of the procedure for nominating candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies with the requirements of this Code and the accuracy of the information in the documents submitted for registration.

A person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus or a deputy has the right to get acquainted with the materials of verification of documents submitted for registration.

The decision to register a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus is made in the presence of the documents specified in parts four and five of this article, and protocols of

regional and Minsk city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, confirming the presence of at least 100 thousand signatures of voters for the nomination of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus.

The decision to register a candidate for deputy is made in the presence of the relevant documents specified in <u>Article 66</u> of this Code, received by the district or territorial election commission before the start of registration.

The Central Commission, the corresponding district, territorial election commission, having established compliance of the procedure for nominating candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies with the requirements of this Code, makes a decision on the registration of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies and, within two days after registration, issues the appropriate certificates to the candidates.

The protocol on the registration of candidates for deputies of the House of Representatives, regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies is submitted, respectively, to the Central Commission, regional, Minsk City Election Commission.

The powers of a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, who is a member of the Central Commission, territorial, precinct commission for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, are considered terminated from the moment of registration as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The powers of a person nominated as a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives, a candidate for deputy of a local Council of Deputies that is part of the Central Commission, district, territorial, precinct election commission are considered terminated from the moment of registration as a candidate for deputy.

The Central Commission, district, territorial election commission, no later than the fourth day after registration of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, sends them to print media for publication, and also posts them on the official websites of the Central Commission, local executive and administrative body in the global computer on the Internet, a registration message indicating in relation to each candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city; urban-type settlement or rural settlement indicating the district), party affiliation, as well as reliable information about income and property to the extent determined by the Central Commission, or in another way informs voters about this. If a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies has previously had a criminal record, information about this is indicated in the message. When holding elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, the Central Commission also sends to the print media for publication and places on its official website on the global computer network the Internet reliable information about the income and property of the persons specified in paragraph five of part four of this article.

Article 68 ¹. Refusal to register a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy

The Central Commission, district, territorial election commission refuses to register a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy in the case of:

non-compliance of the person nominated by the candidate with the requirements imposed by this Code on the candidate;

the presence of a court conviction that has entered into legal force against a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for a deputy of the House of Representatives;

the presence of an unexpunged or outstanding criminal record of a person nominated as a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies;

the presence of a person nominated as a candidate for deputy, citizenship (nationality) of another state and (or) documents of foreign states that provide rights to benefits and advantages in connection with political, religious views or nationality, except for the case provided for in Article 58 of this <u>Code</u>;

failure to comply with the requirements provided for by this Code for the nomination of a candidate;

failure to submit one or more documents required for candidate registration;

the number of valid voter signatures collected in support of the candidate's nomination is insufficient to register a candidate;

use in the interests of the election of funds or other material assistance from foreign states and organizations, foreign citizens and stateless persons, international organizations, organizations whose founders (participants, property owners) are foreign states, foreign organizations, international organizations, foreign citizens and stateless persons citizenship;

the presence in the signature lists for the nomination of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus in the Republic of Belarus as a whole of more than 15 percent of false signatures out of the total number of verified signatures of voters;

the presence in the signature sheets for the nomination of a candidate for deputy of more than 15 percent of false signatures from the total number of verified signatures of voters;

in other cases of non-compliance of the nomination procedure with the requirements of this Code.

The Central Commission, district, territorial election commission has the right to refuse registration of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy in the case of:

presentation in the declaration of income and property of a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, or other persons specified in paragraph five of part four of Article 68 of this Code _persons nominated as candidates for deputies, information that is not true and of a significant nature. An explanation of what untrue information about income and property is of a significant nature is given by the Central Commission;

using the advantages of official position in the interests of election specified in part two of <u>Article 73</u> of this Code;

participation of the organization's administration in collecting voter signatures, coercion in the process of collecting signatures and rewarding voters for submitting signatures;

a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus or a deputy exceeds by more than 20 percent the maximum amount of expenditure of the election fund specified in part two of Article 48 1 of this Code , or uses the same amounts of funds in addition to the funds of the election fund;

repeated violation by a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, a deputy, or an initiative group of the requirements of this Code and other acts of election legislation, if they were previously given a warning.

The decision of the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission to refuse registration of a candidate, indicating the grounds for refusal to register, is issued no later than the next day after the decision is made.

The decision of the Central Commission to refuse registration as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus may be appealed by the person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days from the date of the decision. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The decision of the district election commission to refuse registration as a candidate for deputy may be appealed by the person nominated as a candidate for deputy to the relevant regional, Minsk city election commission within three days from the date of the decision, and the decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission within the same period may be appealed to the regional, Minsk city court. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The decision of the territorial election commission to refuse registration as a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies can be appealed by the person nominated as a candidate for deputy to a higher territorial election commission within three days from the date of the decision, and the decision of a higher territorial election commission can be appealed within the same period respectively to the regional and district court. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

Article 69. Withdrawal of candidacy by a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy

A candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, at any time before election day, can withdraw his candidacy by submitting a statement to this effect, respectively, to the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission. If a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy withdraws his candidacy without good reason, which must be indicated in the decision of the commission, the candidate for President or deputy shall compensate the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission for the expenses incurred by it for the candidate for President or deputy.

The decision of the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission on recognizing the withdrawal of his candidacy by a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy without good reason may be appealed by the candidate for President of the

Republic of Belarus, for deputy, respectively, to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus, regional, Minsk city, district, city court within three days from the date of the decision. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

If a candidate refuses to voluntarily reimburse expenses determined by the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission in the case provided for in part one of this article, their collection is carried out in court.

In the event of the withdrawal of all candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies of the House of Representatives, for deputies of the local Council of Deputies, repeat elections are held in the manner provided for in Articles 81, 87, 94 of this Code, respectively.

Article 70. Cancellation of the decision of a political party or labor collective to nominate a candidate for deputy

A political party or labor collective that nominated a candidate for deputy has the right, no later than five days before election day, to cancel its decision to nominate a candidate for deputy. The candidate for deputy is notified about the time of holding a meeting of the highest body of a political party, the governing body of the organizational structure of a political party, a meeting of the primary organization of a political party, a meeting (conference) of the labor collective about the cancellation of the decision to nominate a candidate for deputy. A decision on this issue is made in the manner prescribed for the nomination of candidates for deputies, and is immediately submitted to the relevant district or territorial election commission.

If the decision to nominate a candidate for deputy is canceled without valid reasons, the political party or the organizational structure of the political party, the labor collective that nominated the candidate for deputy, shall compensate the district or territorial election commission for the expenses incurred by it on the candidate for deputy. If a person refuses to voluntarily reimburse the expenses determined by the district or territorial election commission, their collection is carried out in court.

Article 70 ¹. Cancellation of the decision to register a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy for violation of the requirements of this Code

The Central Commission, district, territorial election commission has the right, without prior warning, to cancel the decision to register a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy in the case of:

failure to comply with the restrictions during election campaigning established by this Code; repeated violation of the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation on elections, if a warning was previously issued;

exceeding by more than 20 percent the maximum amount of expenditure of the election fund specified in part two of <u>Article 48 ¹</u> of this Code, or using the same amounts of funds in addition to the funds of the election fund;

participation of the organization's administration in collecting voter signatures, coercion in the process of collecting signatures and rewarding voters for submitting signatures; presentation in the declaration of income and property of the persons specified in paragraph two of part two of Article 68 ¹ of this Code, information that is not true and of a significant nature;

using the advantages of official position in the interests of election specified in part two of <u>Article 73</u> of this Code;

violation of the requirements for the candidate's election program.

The Central Commission, district, territorial election commission, without prior warning, cancels the decision to register a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy:

when used in the interests of the election of funds or other material assistance from foreign states and organizations, foreign citizens and stateless persons, international organizations, organizations whose founders (participants, property owners) are foreign states, foreign organizations, international organizations, foreign citizens and persons without citizenship;

in case of loss of the right of a person, a registered candidate, to be elected as the President of the Republic of Belarus or a deputy;

if, after registration of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, the circumstances provided for in part one of <u>Article 68 ¹</u> of this Code are established.

The decision of the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission to cancel the decision to register a candidate, indicating the grounds for canceling the decision, is issued no later than the next day after the decision is made.

The decision of the Central Commission to cancel the decision to register a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy may be appealed by the candidate to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days from the date of the decision. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The decision of the district election commission to cancel the decision to register a candidate for deputy can be appealed by the candidate to the regional, Minsk city election commission within three days from the date of the decision, and the decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission within the same period can be appealed to the regional, Minsk city Court. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

The decision of the territorial election commission to cancel the decision to register a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies can be appealed by the candidate to a higher territorial election commission within three days from the date of the decision, and the decision of a higher territorial election commission within the same period can be appealed, respectively, to the regional, district court. The court considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

If a decision is made to cancel the registration of a candidate for deputy by the regional or Minsk city election commission, this decision can be appealed by the candidate to the Central Commission within three days from the date of the decision. The decision of the Central Commission is appealed in the manner provided for in part four of this article.

Article 71. The procedure for nominating candidates for deputies to replace those who dropped out

In the event of the withdrawal of candidates for deputies after the end of the registration period for candidates for deputies, if there are no other candidates left in the constituency, and also if persons nominated as candidates for deputies, before registration, withdrew their statements of consent to run for office in the constituency or to these persons in connection with violation of the requirements of this Code, registration was denied, as a result of which there are no other candidates for deputies left in the electoral district, the district, territorial election commission respectively turns to political parties, organizational structures of political parties, labor collectives with a proposal to nominate new candidates for deputies. The nomination of candidates for deputies to replace those who have retired is carried out in the manner established by this Code. If candidates for deputies retire less than 20 days before election day, repeat elections of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a deputy of the local Council of Deputies are held in the manner provided for in Articles 87 and 94 of this Code, respectively.

Article 72. Ballot for elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, ballot for elections of deputies

The text of the ballot for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus is approved by the Central Commission, the text of the ballot for the election of a deputy is approved by the relevant district or territorial election commission.

The ballot includes in alphabetical order all registered candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, indicating the surname, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city; urban-type settlement or rural settlement, indicating the district), party affiliation of each candidate for President and deputy. An empty square is placed to the right of each candidate's information. At the end of the list of candidates, the line "Against all candidates" is placed with an empty square located to the right of it. If the name of only one candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy is included in the ballot, then the text of the ballot must contain the words "for" and "against", under which empty squares are placed.

The production of ballots for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus is ensured by the Central Commission, and for the elections of deputies - by district and territorial election commissions. If necessary, district and territorial election commissions may apply to the higher territorial election commission with a request for the production of ballots.

The number of ballots produced cannot be less than the number of voters included in the lists of citizens entitled to participate in the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies. The number of spare ballots should not exceed 5 percent of the number of voters. The specific number of ballots produced is determined by the relevant commission.

The transfer of ballots from a higher election commission to a lower election commission, including to a precinct commission, is carried out according to an act. Precinct election commissions are provided with ballots no later than the day preceding the day of early voting,

and precinct election commissions that do not conduct early voting - no later than the day preceding election day. Responsibility for the safety of ballots lies with the chairmen of the commissions responsible for receiving, transmitting and storing ballots.

Each ballot must contain an explanation of how to fill it out.

Ballots are printed in Belarusian or Russian. The back side of the ballot is signed by at least two persons who are members of the precinct commission.

Ballots for elections of deputies must differ in color and (or) have a distinctive sign.

In the event that a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or a deputy leaves on the eve of the elections and it is impossible to produce new ballots, respectively, the Central Commission, district, territorial election commissions instruct precinct commissions to make a mark "withdrew" against the name of the withdrawn candidate in each ballot in ink or with a ballpoint pen. A notice about this is also posted at the polling station and is communicated to voters when they issue ballots.

Ballots for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, for the elections of deputies, after establishing the voting results, together with the protocols of precinct election commissions, are submitted to the relevant territorial and district election commissions.

CHAPTER 16

GUARANTEES OF ACTIVITY AND RIGHTS OF A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS, FOR DEPUTIES

Article 73. Equality of rights and duties of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies

All candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies have equal rights and bear equal responsibilities.

A candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy does not have the right to use the advantages of his official position in the interests of election. In this Code, using the advantages of official position means:

attracting persons under subordination or other official dependence to carry out activities during working hours that contribute to nomination and (or) election;

the use of premises occupied by government bodies and organizations to carry out activities conducive to nomination and (or) election, in the event that other candidates for President and deputies who have applied on the same issue cannot use these premises on similar conditions;

the use of telephone and other types of communications, office equipment intended to ensure the functioning of government bodies, organizations, to carry out activities promoting nomination and (or) election;

free or preferential use of state-owned vehicles to carry out activities promoting nomination and (or) election;

collecting voter signatures and pre-election campaigning during business trips.

The provisions provided for in paragraphs four and five of part two of this article do not apply to persons using communications and transport in accordance with the legislation on state security.

If the requirements of this article are violated, the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission has the right to refuse to register a candidate or cancel the decision on his registration.

Article 74. The right of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies to speak at meetings, to use the media, to receive information

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, from the time of their registration, have an equal right to speak at pre-election and other meetings, conferences, sessions, in the print media, on the radio, and candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies of the House of Representatives - and on television. Violation of this right can be appealed to the district, territorial election commission, or to the Central Commission.

State bodies, public associations, heads of organizations, bodies of territorial public self-government are obliged to facilitate the organization of meetings of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies with voters, as well as ensure the provision of reference and information materials necessary for them to conduct the election campaign, except for materials the use of which is limited by law .

Article 75. Election program of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy

A candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy has the right to present a program for his future activities, the text of which is determined by the candidate. The candidate's program should not contain propaganda of war, calls for a violent change of the constitutional system, violation of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Belarus, social, national, religious and racial hostility, calls inducing or intended to induce disruption, or cancellation, or postponement of elections, appointed in accordance with legislative acts, as well as insults and slander against officials of the Republic of Belarus, other candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies.

If the requirements of this article are violated, the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission has the right to cancel the decision to register the candidate.

Article 76. Proxies of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies

A candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus can have up to 30 proxies, a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives - up to 15, a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies - up to 5 proxies.

Proxies help the candidate in conducting an election campaign, campaign for his election, represent the candidate's interests in relations with government bodies, public associations, voters, as well as in commissions.

Proxies have the right to be present at meetings of commissions, including those on establishing voting results and election results, as well as at voting stations during voting and counting of votes.

A candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies appoints proxies at his own discretion from among citizens who have the right to vote, and in a written statement reports them, respectively, to the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission for registration. The application for each authorized person indicates the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (number of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus). The relevant commission, within three days from the date of receipt of the application, registers authorized persons and issues them certificates.

Candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and deputies cannot be proxies of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy.

A candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy has the right to recall his proxies at any time before election day by notifying the relevant commission, which will cancel the certificates issued to him. The authorized person may resign at any time.

The powers of proxies of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy, begin from the day of their registration, respectively, by the Central Commission, district, territorial election commission and terminate with the loss of their status by the candidate who appointed them, except for the cases specified in part six of this article.

An authorized representative of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus cannot be a member of the Central Commission, territorial and precinct commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, and an authorized representative of a candidate for deputies of the House of Representatives, for deputies of the local Council of Deputies cannot be part of the Central Commission, district, territorial and precinct election commissions in which he represents the candidate for deputy, and from the moment of his registration by the relevant commission is considered relieved of duties in the commission.

Proxies of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy, at the request of the candidate, may be released from labor (official) duties without pay after their registration before election day. The basis for such exemption is the decision of the relevant commission to register a proxy and the statement of the proxy to the employer to grant him leave without pay to participate in election events.

Article 77. Release of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputy from performing labor (official) duties to participate in election events and guarantee their activities

After registration, candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus (except for the President of the Republic of Belarus running for a new term), candidates for deputies of the House of Representatives (except for the Chairman of the House of Representatives) are released, and candidates for deputies of local Councils of Deputies may be released from performing labor (official) duties at their place main work (service) from the day of registration until election day with the provision of social leave. The application for social leave to participate in election events is accompanied by the decision of the relevant commission on registration as a candidate.

At the request of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus or deputy, upon his application, instead of social leave (part of it), labor leave is granted, the duration of which is determined in accordance with the law.

A candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus or a deputy cannot be called up for military service or military training from the day of registration until the day of elections, and a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies also cannot be sent on a business trip without his consent.

CHAPTER 17

PROCEDURE FOR ESTABLISHING VOTING RESULTS AND SUMMARYING THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

Article 78. Establishment of voting results in territorial commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus

The district, city, city district commission for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, on the basis of protocols received from precinct commissions and drawn up in accordance with the requirements of Article <u>55</u> of this Code, establishes:

the total number of voters in a district, city, district in a city; the number of voters who received ballots; the number of voters who took part in voting, including the number of voters who took part in early voting, the number of voters who took part in voting at their location, and the number of voters who took part in voting on election day at the polling station;

the number of votes cast for each candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, and the number of votes cast against all candidates (if voting was carried out on one candidate, the number of votes cast against the candidate);

number of ballots declared invalid:

the number of ballots issued to precinct commissions;

number of spoiled ballots;

number of unused ballots.

The district, city, district within a city commission establishes at its meeting the voting results for the district, city, district within a city and draws up a protocol. The protocol is signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and members of the commission and, no later than on the third day after the elections, is personally transferred by the chairman, or deputy chairman, or secretary of the commission to the relevant regional, Minsk city commission for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The regional, Minsk city commission for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, on the basis of protocols received from the relevant district, city, district commissions in cities, establishes:

the total number of voters in the region, the city of Minsk;

the number of voters who received ballots;

the number of voters who took part in voting, including the number of voters who took part in early voting, the number of voters who took part in voting at their location, and the number of voters who took part in voting on election day at the polling station;

the number of votes cast for each candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, and the number of votes cast against all candidates (if voting was carried out on one candidate, the number of votes cast against the candidate);

number of ballots declared invalid;

the number of ballots issued to the relevant district, city, and city district commissions; number of spoiled ballots;

number of unused ballots.

The regional, Minsk city commission establishes at its meeting the results of voting in the region, the city of Minsk and draws up a protocol about this. The protocol is signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and members of the commission and no later than on the fourth day after the elections personally by the chairman, or deputy chairman, or secretary of the commission, it is transferred to the Central Commission.

The protocols of the commissions sent to higher commissions are accompanied, if any, by special opinions of the commission members, statements of proxies of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus and other persons on violations of the requirements of this Code and the decisions of the commissions adopted on them.

Article 79. Establishment and publication of the results of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus

The Central Commission, on the basis of the protocols of the regional and Minsk city commissions for the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, no later than 10 days after the elections, establishes at its meeting and enters into the protocol the following data:

the total number of voters in the Republic of Belarus;

the number of voters who received ballots;

the number of voters who took part in voting, including the number of voters who took part in early voting, the number of voters who took part in voting at their location, and the number of voters who took part in voting on election day at the polling station;

the number of votes cast for each candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, and the number of votes cast against all candidates (if voting was carried out on one candidate, the number of votes cast against the candidate);

number of ballots declared invalid;

number of spoiled ballots;

number of unused ballots.

The protocol is signed by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary and members of the Central Commission.

It is considered that the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus took place if more than half of the citizens of the Republic of Belarus included in the voter list took part in the voting.

The President of the Republic of Belarus is considered elected if more than half of the citizens of the Republic of Belarus who took part in the voting voted for him.

If errors, inconsistencies are identified in the protocols of precinct and territorial commissions, as well as other violations committed during voting or during the counting of votes, the Central Commission, on its own initiative or at the request of a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, has the right to decide to recount votes by the relevant territorial commission. The application of the candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus for a

recount of votes is submitted to the Central Commission no later than the third day after the elections. The recount of votes is carried out by the territorial commission in the presence of a member (members) of a higher or Central commission, and, if necessary, also of precinct commissions.

Elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus as a whole in the republic or in individual polling stations, districts, cities, districts in cities, regions, the city of Minsk may be declared invalid due to violations of the requirements of this Code committed during the elections or during the counting of votes, if they affected on the results of elections in the republic as a whole. The decision to invalidate elections is made by the Central Commission. A complaint about such a violation is submitted by a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus to the Central Commission no later than the third day after the elections. The decision of the Central Commission can be appealed to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within ten days from the date of its adoption. The right to appeal a decision to invalidate elections belongs to candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The message on the results of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus is transmitted by the Central Commission to the media for publication (publication) no later than three days from the date of signing the protocol on the election results, and is also posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet.

Article 80. Second round of voting

If none of the candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus receives the required number of votes, then within two weeks, by decision of the Central Commission, a second round of voting is held for the two candidates who received the largest number of votes. The notice of the second round of voting is published in the print media, made public in other media, and posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet the next day after the appointment of the second round of voting. The second round of voting is conducted in compliance with the requirements of this Code. Lists of citizens entitled to participate in the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus are updated by the precinct commission before the second round of voting.

Elections in the second round of voting are considered valid if more than half of the voters included in the list of citizens entitled to participate in the elections took part in the voting. A candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus who received more than half of the votes of voters who took part in the voting in the second round of voting is considered elected.

If one of the candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus included in the ballot in the second round of voting withdraws his candidacy, the second round of voting is held one candidate at a time. At the same time, the candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus is also considered elected if he received more than half of the votes of the voters who took part in the voting.

Article 81. Repeated elections

If no more than two candidates ran for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus and none of them was elected, as well as in the event of the withdrawal of all candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus or the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus was declared invalid or invalid, or the second round of voting did not allow determining the elected President of the Republic Belarus, the Central Commission, no later than 10 days, calls repeat elections with the re-nomination of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus. At the same time, it may decide to hold elections by territorial and precinct commissions with a new composition.

Repeat elections are held within three months from the date of their appointment. Voting is carried out at the same polling stations according to the lists drawn up for the main elections and updated on the eve of the repeat elections.

The formation of commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, if in accordance with part one of this article a decision was made to hold repeat elections by commissions with a new composition, the nomination and registration of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, other events related to the conduct of repeat elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus are carried out in the manner established by this Code.

In the event of repeat elections as candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, citizens of the Republic of Belarus cannot run again for whom, in accordance with paragraphs two to four, six and eight of part one of Article 70 1 of this Code, decisions were made to cancel their registration as candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, as well as citizens who withdrew their candidacies during elections without good reason.

The message about holding repeat elections within three days is published in the print media, made public in other media, and posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet.

Article 81 ¹. Monitoring the constitutionality of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus

The Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, no later than five days from the date of publication of the results of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, has the right to apply to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus with a proposal to give an opinion on the constitutionality of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus. In this case, the assumption of office of the President of the Republic of Belarus is suspended for the period of consideration of such a proposal by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus.

If a proposal is submitted to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus to give an opinion on the constitutionality of holding elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly simultaneously informs the Central Commission about this.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus gives an opinion on the constitutionality of holding elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus within ten days from the date of submission of such a proposal.

The conclusion of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus on the unconstitutionality of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus is the basis for the Central Commission to invalidate the elections and cancel the previously adopted decision

on the results of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus. In this case, repeat elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus are called and held in the manner established <u>by Article 81</u> of this Code, taking into account the specifics provided for by this article.

The decision to call repeat elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus is made by the Central Commission no later than 10 days from the date the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus issued a conclusion on the unconstitutionality of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 81 ². Consideration by the All-Belarusian People's Assembly of the issue of the legitimacy of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus

The Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly or at least one third of the full composition of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, no later than five days from the date of publication of the results of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, has the right to appeal to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly with a proposal to consider the issue of the legitimacy of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus. In this case, the assumption of office of the President of the Republic of Belarus is suspended for the period of consideration of such a proposal by the All-Belarusian People's Assembly.

If a proposal is made to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly to consider the issue of the legitimacy of the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly simultaneously informs the Central Commission about this.

The All-Belarusian People's Assembly considers the issue of the legitimacy of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus within ten days from the date of submission of such a proposal.

The decision of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly on the illegitimacy of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus is the basis for the Central Commission to invalidate the elections and cancel the previously adopted decision on the results of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus. In this case, repeat elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus are called and held in the manner established by <u>Article 81</u> of this Code, taking into account the specifics provided for by this article.

The decision to call repeat elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus is made by the Central Commission no later than 10 days from the day the All-Belarusian People's Assembly made a decision on the illegitimacy of the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

CHAPTER 18

PROCEDURE FOR ESTABLISHING RESULTS AND SUMMARYING THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS OF DEPUTIES TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Article 82. Establishment of election results for the electoral district for the election of a deputy of the House of Representatives

Based on protocols received from precinct election commissions and drawn up in accordance with the requirements of <u>Article 55</u> of this Code, the district election commission establishes:

the total number of voters in the district;

the number of voters who received ballots;

the number of voters who took part in voting, including the number of voters who took part in early voting, the number of voters who took part in voting at their location, and the number of voters who took part in voting on election day at the polling station;

the number of votes cast for each candidate for deputy, and the number of votes cast against all candidates for deputy (if voting was carried out on one candidate, the number of votes cast against the candidate);

number of ballots declared invalid;

the number of ballots issued to precinct election commissions;

number of spoiled ballots;

number of unused ballots.

The candidate for the House of Representatives who received the largest number of votes from voters who took part in the voting is considered elected. When voting on one candidate, a candidate is considered elected if he received more than half of the votes of the voters who took part in the voting.

The district election commission may declare an election invalid if, during the election or during the counting of votes or when determining the election results, violations of the requirements of this Code were committed that affected the election results. A complaint about such a violation is filed by a candidate for deputy to the district election commission no later than the third day after the elections. The decision of the district election commission can be appealed to the regional, Minsk city election commission within three days from the date of its adoption, and the decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission - to the Central Commission within the same period.

The election results for the electoral district are established at a meeting of the district election commission and entered into the protocol. The protocol is signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and members of the commission and no later than on the fourth day after the elections personally by the chairman, or deputy chairman, or secretary of the commission, it is transferred to the regional, Minsk city election commission. Attached, if any, to the protocol sent to the regional or Minsk city election commission are special opinions of commission members, statements of proxies of deputy candidates and other persons about

violations of the requirements of this Code and the decisions of the district election commission adopted on them.

The district election commission, no later than the fifth day after the election, sends a message about the election results for the electoral district to the print media for publication, as well as to the relevant local executive and administrative body for posting on its official website on the global computer network Internet. The message shall indicate the total number of voters included in the lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections; the number of voters who took part in the voting; the number of votes cast for each candidate and the number of votes cast against all candidates for deputy (if voting was carried out on one candidate, the number of votes cast against the candidate); number of invalid ballots; surname, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city; urban settlement or rural locality indicating the district), party affiliation of the elected deputy. If the elections are declared invalid, this is indicated in the message of the district election commission.

Article 83. Establishment of election results by regional and Minsk city election commissions

The regional, Minsk city election commission, on the basis of the protocols of district election commissions, establishes the results of elections of deputies of the House of Representatives in the territory of the region, the city of Minsk and makes the appropriate decision. The decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission, together with the protocols of district election commissions and the documents specified in part four of Article 82 of this Code, no later than the sixth day after the elections, is personally transferred by the chairman, or deputy chairman, or secretary of the commission to the Central Commission.

If errors, inconsistencies are identified in the protocols of precinct and district election commissions, as well as other violations committed during voting or during the counting of votes, the regional, Minsk city election commission, on its own initiative or at the request of a candidate for deputy, has the right to decide to recount the votes of the relevant district election commission. An application by a candidate for a recount of votes is submitted to the regional or Minsk city election commission no later than the third day after the elections. The recount of votes is carried out by the district election commission in the presence of a member (members) of the regional, Minsk city election commission, and, if necessary, precinct election commissions.

The regional, Minsk city election commission may declare elections invalid if during the elections or during the counting of votes or when determining the election results, violations of the requirements of this Code were committed that affected the election results. The decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission can be appealed by a candidate for deputy to the Central Commission within three days from the date of its adoption.

Article 84. Establishment of election results by the Central Commission

The Central Commission, on the basis of received decisions of regional and Minsk city election commissions and protocols of district election commissions, establishes the results of

elections of deputies in electoral districts and registers elected deputies of the House of Representatives.

The Central Commission may declare the elections invalid if during the elections, or during the counting of votes, or when determining the results of the elections, there were violations of the requirements of this Code that affected the results of the elections or did not allow reliably determining the results of the will of voters, and refuse to register a deputy of the House of Representatives . The decision of the Central Commission to recognize the elections as invalid can be appealed by a candidate for deputy to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days from the date of its adoption.

Article 85. Publication of the results of elections of deputies of the House of Representatives

The Central Commission, no later than three days from the date of establishment of the election results, sends to the print media for publication, and also places on its official website on the global computer network the Internet a message about the results of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives in the Republic of Belarus and the list of deputies elected by each electoral district, indicating the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city, urban-type settlement or rural settlement, indicating the district), party membership of the deputy.

Article 86. Deleted.

Article 87. Repeated elections

If the elections in the electoral district were declared invalid or one candidate for deputies of the House of Representatives ran, who did not receive the required number of votes, as well as in the event of the withdrawal of all candidates for deputies, the Central Commission instructs the regional, Minsk city election commission, respectively, to hold repeat elections in the electoral district. At the same time, it may decide on the need to hold elections by precinct election commissions with a new composition. In this case, the formation of election commissions is carried out in the manner established by this Code. Voting is carried out at the same polling stations according to the lists drawn up for the main elections and updated on the eve of the repeat elections.

Repeat elections are called by the Central Commission no later than three months before they are held and are organized in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

The candidate for the House of Representatives who received the largest number of votes from voters who took part in the voting is considered elected. When voting on one candidate, a candidate is considered elected if he received more than half of the votes of the voters who took part in the voting.

In the event of repeat elections, citizens of the Republic of Belarus cannot run again as deputy candidates, in respect of whom, in accordance with paragraphs two to four, six and eight of part one of Article 70 1 of this Code, decisions were made to cancel the registration of their

candidates for deputy, as well as <u>those</u> who canceled without valid reasons, their candidacies during elections.

The decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission, adopted during repeat elections in accordance with <u>Articles 49</u>, <u>65</u>, <u>68</u> ¹ and <u>70</u> ¹ of this Code, can be appealed by a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy, a person nominated as a candidate for deputy, a person nominated candidate for deputy, candidate for deputy to the Central Commission within three days from the date of the decision. The decision of the Central Commission can be appealed to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days from the date of the decision. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

Article 88. Conducting elections of deputies of the House of Representatives to replace those who retired

In case of recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives or early termination of parliamentary powers for other reasons, new elections are held in the relevant electoral district. Elections are called by the Central Commission no later than three months before they are held and are organized in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

The decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission, adopted during the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives instead of those who retired in accordance with Articles 49, 65, 68 and 70 of this Code, can be appealed in the manner prescribed by part five of Article 87 of this Code.

If a deputy of the House of Representatives retires less than a year before the expiration of the term of office of the deputies of the House of Representatives, the election of a new deputy of the House of Representatives in place of the retired one is not held.

Article 88 ¹. Control of the constitutionality of elections of deputies of the House of Representatives

The Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, no later than five days from the date of publication of the results of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, has the right to apply to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus with a proposal to give an opinion on the constitutionality of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives. In this case, the convening of the first session of the House of Representatives after the elections is suspended for the period of consideration of such a proposal by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus.

If a proposal is submitted to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus to give an opinion on the constitutionality of holding elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly simultaneously informs the Central Commission about this.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus gives an opinion on the constitutionality of holding elections of deputies of the House of Representatives within ten days from the date of submission of such a proposal.

The conclusion of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus on the unconstitutionality of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives is the basis for the Central Commission to invalidate the elections and cancel the previously adopted decision on the results of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives. In this case, repeat elections of deputies of the House of Representatives are appointed and held in the manner established by Article 87 of this Code, taking into account the features provided for by this article.

The decision to call repeat elections of deputies of the House of Representatives is made by the Central Commission no later than 10 days from the date the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus issues a conclusion on the unconstitutionality of holding elections of deputies of the House of Representatives.

Article 88 ². Consideration by the All-Belarusian People's Assembly of the issue of the legitimacy of elections of deputies of the House of Representatives

The Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly or at least one third of the full composition of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, no later than five days from the date of publication of the results of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, has the right to apply to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly with a proposal to consider the issue of the legitimacy of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives. In this case, the convening of the first session of the House of Representatives after the elections is suspended while the All-Belarusian People's Assembly considers such a proposal.

If a proposal is made to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly to consider the issue of the legitimacy of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives, the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly simultaneously informs the Central Commission about this.

The All-Belarusian People's Assembly considers the issue of the legitimacy of the elections of deputies to the House of Representatives within ten days from the date of such a proposal.

The decision of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly on the illegitimacy of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives is the basis for the Central Commission to invalidate the elections and cancel the previously adopted decision on the results of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives. In this case, repeat elections of deputies of the House of Representatives are appointed and held in the manner established by Article 87 of this Code, taking into account the features provided for by this article.

The decision to call repeat elections of deputies of the House of Representatives is made by the Central Commission no later than 10 days from the date of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly's decision on the illegitimacy of the elections of deputies of the House of Representatives.

CHAPTER 19

PROCEDURE FOR ESTABLISHING RESULTS AND SUMMARYING THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS OF DEPUTIES OF LOCAL COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES

Article 89. Establishment of election results for the electoral district for the election of a deputy of the local Council of Deputies

Based on protocols received from precinct (precinct) election commissions and drawn up in accordance with the requirements of <u>Article 55</u> of this Code, the territorial, district election commission establishes:

the total number of voters in the district:

the number of voters who received ballots;

the number of voters who took part in voting, including the number of voters who took part in early voting, the number of voters who took part in voting at their location, and the number of voters who took part in voting on election day at the polling station;

the number of votes cast for each candidate for deputy, and the number of votes cast against all candidates for deputy (if voting was carried out on one candidate, the number of votes cast against the candidate);

number of ballots declared invalid;

the number of ballots issued to precinct election commissions;

number of spoiled ballots;

number of unused ballots.

The candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies who received the largest number of votes from voters who took part in the voting is considered elected. When voting on one candidate, a candidate is considered elected if he received more than half of the votes of the voters who took part in the voting.

The territorial or district election commission may declare elections invalid if during the elections, or during the counting of votes, or when determining the election results, violations of the requirements of this Code were committed, which affected the election results. A complaint about such a violation is submitted by a candidate for deputy to the territorial or district election commission no later than the third day after the elections. The decision of a territorial or district election commission may be appealed to a higher territorial election commission within three days from the date of its adoption.

The election results for each electoral district are established at a meeting of the territorial, district election commission and entered into the protocol. The protocol is signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and members of the commission.

The district election commission, no later than the fifth day after the elections, transfers the protocols to the regional and Minsk city election commissions, respectively. The minutes are handed over personally by the chairman, or deputy chairman, or secretary of the commission. The protocols sent to the regional and Minsk city election commissions are accompanied, if any, by special opinions of commission members, statements by proxies of deputy candidates and

other persons on violations of the requirements of this Code and decisions taken on them by the relevant district election commission.

If errors, inconsistencies are identified in the protocols of precinct, territorial, district election commissions, as well as other violations committed during voting or during the counting of votes, the higher election commission, on its own initiative or at the request of a candidate for deputy, has the right to decide to recount the votes of the corresponding territorial, district election commission. An application by a candidate for a recount of votes is submitted to the higher election commission no later than the third day after the elections. The recount of votes is carried out by the territorial, district election commission in the presence of a member (members) of a higher election commission, and, if necessary, precinct election commissions.

Article 90. Deleted.

Article 91. Establishment of the results of elections to local Councils of Deputies by territorial election commissions

The regional, Minsk city election commission, on the basis of protocols of district election commissions, and the district, city (in cities of regional and district subordination), settlement, rural election commission, on the basis of protocols of precinct election commissions and protocols on election results for electoral districts, summarize the election results in the appropriate local Council of Deputies and register the deputies elected in each electoral district. The decision to establish the election results is sent to the higher election commission.

The territorial election commission may declare elections invalid if during the elections, or when counting votes, or determining the results of elections, there were violations of the requirements of this Code that affected the results of the elections or did not allow reliably determining the results of the will of voters, and refuse to register a deputy. The decision of the territorial election commission to recognize the elections as invalid can be appealed by a candidate for deputy to the regional, Minsk city, district, city court, respectively, within three days from the date of its adoption.

Article 92. Publication of the results of elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies

Regional, Minsk city, district, city, settlement, rural election commissions, no later than the fifth day after the elections, are sent to the print media for publication, as well as to the relevant local executive and administrative body for posting on the official website on the global computer network Internet a message on the election results and a list of deputies of the relevant regional, Minsk city, district, city, settlement, village Councils of Deputies elected in each electoral district, indicating the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (profession worker, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city, urban-type settlement or rural locality, indicating the district), party affiliation of the deputy or in another way inform voters about this. The message shall indicate the total number of voters included in the lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections, the number of voters who took part in the voting, the number of votes cast for each candidate, and the number of

votes cast against all candidates (if voting was carried out on one candidate, – the number of votes cast against the candidate), the number of invalid ballots.

In cases where elections are declared invalid, this is indicated in the message of the territorial election commission.

Article 93. Deleted.

Article 94. Repeated elections

If the elections in the electoral district were declared invalid or if one candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies ran and did not receive the required number of votes, as well as in the event of the withdrawal of all candidates for deputy in the electoral district, repeat elections are held.

Repeated elections of a deputy of the regional, Minsk city, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies are appointed by the corresponding regional, Minsk city, city (in cities of regional subordination) election commission. Repeat elections of a deputy of the district, city (city of regional subordination), settlement, village Council of Deputies are appointed by the district election commission. In this case, the relevant commissions may decide on the need to hold elections by precinct election commissions with a new composition. In this case, the formation of election commissions is carried out in the manner established by this Code. Voting is carried out at the same polling stations according to the lists drawn up for the main elections and updated on the eve of the repeat elections.

Repeat elections are called by the territorial election commission no later than three months before they are held and are organized in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

In the event of repeat elections as deputy candidates, citizens in respect of whom, in accordance with paragraphs two to four, six and eight of part one of Article 70 1 of this Code, decisions were made to cancel their registration as deputy candidates, as well as those who were withdrawn without valid reasons, cannot run again as deputy candidates. reasons for your candidacy during elections.

The decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission, adopted during the re-election of a deputy of the regional, Minsk city Council of Deputies in accordance with Articles 49, 65, 68 ¹ and 70 ¹ of this Code, can be appealed by a person who intends to be nominated as a candidate for deputy, a person nominated by a candidate for deputy, a person nominated as a candidate for deputy, a candidate for deputy to the Central Commission within three days from the date of the decision. The decision of the Central Commission can be appealed to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days from the date of the decision. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

Article 95. Conducting elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies to replace those who retired

In case of recall of a deputy of the local Council of Deputies, early termination of deputy powers for other reasons, new elections are held in the corresponding electoral district.

Elections are called by the relevant local Council of Deputies no later than three months before they are held and are organized in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

When holding elections for a deputy of a city (city of regional subordination), settlement, or rural Council of Deputies instead of the one who dropped out, the precinct election commission may declare voting completed before 20:00 if all voters included in the list have voted.

The decision of the regional, Minsk city election commission, adopted during the elections of deputies of the regional, Minsk city Council of deputies instead of those who retired in accordance with Articles 49, 65, 68^{-1} and 70^{-1} of this Code, can be appealed in the manner prescribed by part five of Article 94 of this Code.

If a deputy of the local Council of Deputies retires less than six months before the expiration of the term of office of the deputies of the local Council of Deputies, elections for a new deputy are not held in place of the retired one.

Article 96. Conducting elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies in newly formed administrative-territorial units and when changing the boundaries of the administrative-territorial unit

If in newly formed administrative-territorial units the formation of a local Council of Deputies is impossible due to the absence or insufficient number of deputies elected to the local Council of Deputies in the territory included in the newly formed administrative-territorial unit, then new elections are held for the corresponding local Council of Deputies.

If, as a result of changes in the boundaries of an administrative-territorial unit, the local Council of Deputies cannot carry out its activities due to an insufficient number of deputies, then new elections are held for the corresponding local Council of Deputies.

Elections in the cases specified in parts one and two of this article are appointed by the President of the Republic of Belarus and are held in the manner established by this Code. The number of electoral districts to be formed and the average number of voters per electoral district are established by the relevant higher local Council of Deputies, and the territorial election commission is formed by higher state bodies in the manner established by Article 34 of this Code .

During the election of deputies to the regional Council of Deputies in a newly formed region, the number of electoral districts to be formed and the average number of voters per electoral district are established by the Central Commission. Regional and district election commissions are also formed by the Central Commission.

SECTION V ¹ ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE ALL-BELARUSIAN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

CHAPTER 19¹

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING ELECTIONS OF DELEGATES TO THE ALL-BELARUSIAN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY FROM LOCAL COUNCILS OF DEPUTIES. ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE ALL-BELARUSIAN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY FROM LOCAL COUNCILS OF DEPUTIES

Article 96 ¹. Appointment of elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies

Elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies are appointed by the Central Commission no later than 10 days and are held no later than 45 days after the single voting day.

The message about the date of the elections is made public (published) in the media and posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the Internet the next day after the elections are called.

Article 96 ². The procedure for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies

Delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies of each region are elected by regional Councils of Deputies from among the deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the regional, basic and primary territorial levels (hereinafter referred to as the regional, basic and primary levels).

The maximum number of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies is determined by law.

The Central Commission, based on the established maximum number of delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies and the number of delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from the Minsk City Council of Deputies, determines the norms for the representation of delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies of each region. The rate of representation is calculated in proportion to the number of voters living in the territory of the relevant region, in the manner determined by the Central Commission. The said decision of the Central Commission is adopted no later than 10 days after the single voting day and the next day after its adoption is sent to the regional Councils of Deputies and posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet.

Based on the decision of the Central Commission on the standards of representation from local Councils of Deputies, the regional Council of Deputies determines the number of delegates to be elected from local Councils of Deputies of the regional, basic and primary levels, and brings it to the attention of the relevant local Councils of Deputies.

The procedure for nominating and electing delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies is determined by the regulations of local Councils of Deputies, taking into account the requirements of this Code and other laws.

Monitoring compliance with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation during elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies is carried out by the Central Commission. Members of the Central Commission, employees of the Central Commission apparatus, within the limits of their powers, have the right to participate in meetings held for these purposes by local Councils of Deputies, to request and receive the necessary information, to familiarize themselves with their documents and decisions.

Article 96 ³ . Requirements for candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies

A person who is simultaneously a deputy of local Councils of Deputies of several levels can be nominated as a candidate for delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from only one of them.

The same person cannot be a candidate for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies and from civil society.

Candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies cannot be nominated by citizens who have citizenship (nationality) of another state and (or) documents of foreign states that provide rights to benefits and advantages in connection with political, religious views or nationality.

Article 96 ⁴. Nomination of candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies

The nomination of candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies begins no earlier than 15 days and ends no later than 35 days after the single voting day.

The right to nominate candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies belongs to the presidiums of regional, district, city (in cities of regional subordination) Councils of Deputies, city (in cities of regional subordination), township and rural Councils of Deputies.

The decision to nominate a person as a candidate for delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from the local Council of Deputies shall indicate the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city; urban settlement type or rural settlement indicating the area). The decision to nominate a person as a candidate for delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from the local Council of Deputies shall be accompanied by:

a written statement from a deputy nominated as a candidate for delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, agreeing to run for the All-Belarusian People's Assembly;

biographical data of the deputy nominated as a candidate for delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, in the form established by the Central Commission. If a person nominated

as a candidate for delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly has previously had a criminal record, information about this is indicated in the biographical information.

Decisions on the nomination of persons as candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies of the basic, primary levels are sent to the regional Council of Deputies within three days from the date of their adoption.

Article 96 ⁵. Holding a meeting of the regional Council of Deputies for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies

A meeting of the regional Council of Deputies for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies is convened no later than 45 days after the single voting day by decision of the presidium of the regional Council of Deputies. The date of the meeting is determined in the decision.

Regional Councils of Deputies, no later than five days before the meetings of regional Councils of Deputies for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, inform the Central Commission about the date, start time and place of their holding.

Article 96 ⁶. Establishment of the results of the elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies by the Central Commission

The decision of the regional Council of Deputies on the election of delegates from local Councils of Deputies of the region to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, indicating their surname, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence, as well as local Councils of Deputies, of which they are deputies, within two days after its adoption is transferred to the Central Commission along with the documents specified in part four of Article 96 2 and part three of Article 96 4 of this Code. The Central Commission has the right to request and receive other necessary documents from local Councils of Deputies in the manner prescribed by law.

The Central Commission, on the basis of the received documents specified in part one of this article, establishes the results of the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Regional Deputies and registers the elected delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly.

The Central Commission may declare the election of a delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly invalid if during the elections, during the counting of votes or when establishing the election results, there were violations of the requirements of this Code, other laws or regulations of local Councils of Deputies that influenced the results of the elections, and refuse to register the delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly people's assembly. The decision of the Central Commission to recognize the elections as invalid can be appealed by a candidate for delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days from the date of the decision. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

If, during the election of a delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies, the elections were declared invalid, repeat elections of a delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from the local Council of Deputies of the same level are held within the period established by the Central Commission. Repeat elections are appointed by the Central Commission and are held in the manner established by the regulations of local Councils of Deputies, taking into account the requirements of this Code and other laws.

Article 96 ⁷. Publication of the results of the elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies

A message on the results of the elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly and a list of elected delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies by region in alphabetical order, indicating for each delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly the surname, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and local Council of Deputies, of which he is a deputy, the Central Commission sends it to the print media for publication, and also posts it on its official website on the global computer network Internet no later than three days from the date establishing the results of the elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies.

Article 96 ⁸ . Conducting elections of a delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from the local Council of Deputies instead of the one who retired

In the event of early termination of the powers of a delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly elected from the local Council of Deputies, by decision of the regional Council of Deputies, elections of a new delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from the local Council of Deputies of the same level may be held within the period established by the Central Commission. Elections to replace the retired delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly are appointed by the Central Commission and are held in the manner established by the regulations of the local Council of Deputies, taking into account the requirements of this Code and other laws.

If an elected delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly retires less than a year before the expiration of the term of office of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, elections for a new delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly will not be held in place of the one who retired.

CHAPTER 19²

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING ELECTIONS OF DELEGATES TO THE ALL-BELARUSIAN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY FROM CIVIL SOCIETY. ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE ALL-BELARUSIAN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY FROM CIVIL SOCIETY

Article 96 ⁹ . Appointment of elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society

Elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society are appointed by the Central Commission no later than 10 days and are held no later than 45 days after the single voting day.

The message about the date of the elections is made public (published) in the media, posted on the official websites of the Central Commission, civil society subjects (if any) on the global computer network Internet the next day after the elections are called.

Article 96 ¹⁰. The procedure for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society

Delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society are elected by the highest bodies of civil society entities from among the members of these entities (organizations that are part of the civil society entity).

The maximum number of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society, as well as the conditions for the participation of civil society entities in the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly are determined by laws.

The Ministry of Justice compiles a list of civil society entities that have the right, in accordance with the law, to elect delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly (hereinafter in this article - the list), as of the day of the official publication of the decision to call elections of deputies on a single voting day and no later than five days after them appointment publishes the specified list in the printed media, places it on the official website of the Ministry of Justice on the global computer network Internet, and also within the same period sends the specified list to the Central Commission along with copies of the charters of civil society entities included in the list.

Civil society entities included in the list, no later than the single voting day, submit to the Central Commission the decision of the governing or executive body of the civil society entity on participation in the elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly.

The Central Commission, based on the number of civil society entities participating in the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly and the established maximum number of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society, determines an equal number of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly to be elected from each entity of civil society. If the number of civil society delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly provided for by law is not divided equally between civil society entities participating in the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, the Central Commission reduces this number to the nearest number, divisible in equal shares without a remainder by

the number of such civil society entities. The said decision of the Central Commission is adopted no later than 10 days after the single voting day and the next day after its adoption is sent to the relevant subjects of civil society and posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet.

Based on the decision of the Central Commission on the norm of representation from each civil society entity, the governing body of the civil society entity determines the number of delegates to be elected from each region and the city of Minsk. At the same time, the election of delegates from each region and the city of Minsk must be ensured.

The procedure for nominating and electing delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society is determined by the charters of civil society entities, taking into account the requirements of this Code and other laws.

Monitoring compliance with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation during elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly by civil society entities is carried out by the Central Commission, as well as the Ministry of Justice, the relevant regional and Minsk city justice bodies. Members of the Central Commission, employees of the Central Commission apparatus, officials of the Ministry of Justice, relevant regional and Minsk city justice bodies, within the limits of their powers, have the right to participate in meetings held for these purposes by subjects of civil society, their organizational structures, to request and receive the necessary information, to get acquainted with their documents and decisions.

Article 96 ¹¹. Requirements for candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society

A candidate for delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society can be a citizen of the Republic of Belarus who has the right to vote, permanently resides on the territory of the Republic of Belarus and is a member of a civil society entity (an organization that is part of a civil society entity) that has the right, in accordance with the law, to elect delegates All-Belarusian People's Assembly.

The same person cannot be a candidate for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society and from local Councils of Deputies.

Citizens who have an unexpunged or outstanding criminal record cannot be nominated as candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society.

Citizens who have citizenship (nationality) of another state and (or) documents of foreign states that provide rights to benefits and advantages in connection with political, religious views or nationality cannot be nominated as candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society.

Article 96 ¹². Nomination of candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society

The nomination of candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society begins no earlier than 15 days and ends no later than 35 days after the single voting day.

The right to nominate candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society belongs to the regional and Minsk city organizational structures of civil society entities.

Members of civil society entities (organizations that are part of a civil society entity) who are citizens of the Republic of Belarus and have the right to vote have the right to participate in the nomination of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society entities.

The same person can be nominated as a candidate for delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society by only one subject of civil society.

The decision to nominate a person as a candidate for delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from a subject of civil society shall indicate the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, citizenship, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work (study), place of residence (city; urban settlement or rural settlement, indicating the district), membership in a civil society entity (an organization that is part of a civil society entity), indicating its organizational structure.

Decisions of regional, Minsk city organizational structures of civil society subjects on the nomination of candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly are transferred to the governing or executive body of the civil society subject within three days from the date of the decision, along with the following documents:

written statements of persons nominated as candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly on their consent to run for the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from the relevant subject of civil society;

copies of passport pages confirming the date of birth, citizenship of the Republic of Belarus and registration on the territory of the Republic of Belarus (copies of the front side of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus confirming the date of birth and citizenship of the Republic of Belarus) of persons nominated as candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society;

biographical data of persons nominated as candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society, in the form established by the Central Commission. If a person nominated as a candidate for delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly has previously had a criminal record and (or) has a criminal record, information about this is indicated in the biographical data;

certificates or copies of documents confirming information about education, place of work (study), position held as an employee (worker's profession, occupation) of persons nominated as candidates for delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society, indicated in the documents on the nomination of candidates.

Article 96 ¹³. Holding a meeting of the highest body of a civil society entity for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society

A meeting of the highest body of a civil society entity for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly is convened no later than 45 days after the single voting day.

Civil society entities, no later than five days before the meetings of the highest bodies of civil society entities for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, inform

the Central Commission and the Ministry of Justice about the date, start time and place of their holding.

Participants in the meeting of the highest body of a civil society entity for the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly may be members of a civil society entity (an organization that is part of a civil society entity) who are citizens of the Republic of Belarus and have the right to vote.

Article 96 ¹⁴. Establishing the results of the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society

The decision of the highest body of a civil society entity on the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society, indicating their last name, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth, employee position (worker's profession, occupation), place of work (study) and place of residence within two days after its adoption, it is transferred to the Central Commission along with the documents specified in part six of Article 96 10 and part six of Article 96 12 of this Code. The Central Commission has the right to request and receive other necessary documents from civil society entities in the manner prescribed by law.

The Central Commission, on the basis of the received documents specified in part one of this article, establishes the results of the election of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from a subject of civil society and registers the elected delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly.

The Central Commission may declare the election of a delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly invalid if during the elections, during the counting of votes or when establishing the election results, there were violations of the requirements of this Code, other laws or charters of civil society entities that influenced the results of the elections, and refuse to register the delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly people's assembly. The decision of the Central Commission to recognize the elections as invalid can be appealed by a candidate for delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days from the date of the decision. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus considers the complaint within three days, its decision is final.

If during the elections of a delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly the elections were declared invalid, repeat elections are held within the period established by the Central Commission. Repeat elections are appointed by the Central Commission and are held in the manner established by the charters of civil society entities, taking into account the requirements of this Code and other laws.

Article 96 ¹⁵. Publication of the results of the elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society

A message on the results of the elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly and a list of elected delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society in alphabetical order, indicating the surname, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth, employee position (worker's profession, occupation), place of work (study) of each delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, a subject of civil society of which the delegate

is a member (organization that is part of which) the Central Commission sends to the print media for publication, and also posts on its official website on the global computer network Internet no later than than within three days from the date of establishing the results of the elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society.

Article 96 ¹⁶ . Conducting elections of a delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society instead of the one who retired

In the event of early termination of the powers of a delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly elected by a subject of civil society, by decision of the governing body of the subject of civil society, elections of a new delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from the same subject of civil society may be held. Elections to replace the retired delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly are appointed by the Central Commission and are held in the manner established by the charter of the civil society entity, taking into account the requirements of this Code and other laws.

If an elected delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly leaves civil society less than a year before the expiration of the term of office of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, the election of a new delegate of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly in place of the one who retired is not held.

SECTION VI ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

CHAPTER 20

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 97. Appointment of elections of members of the Council of the Republic

Elections of members of the Council of the Republic of a new convocation are called by the President of the Republic of Belarus no later than three months before the single voting day and are held, as a rule, on the same day no later than 40 days after the single voting day.

From each region and the city of Minsk, eight members of the Council of the Republic are elected by secret ballot at meetings of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of each region and the city of Minsk.

In case of early termination of the powers of the Council of the Republic, extraordinary elections are held within three months from the date of early termination of the powers of the chamber, which are appointed by the President of the Republic of Belarus.

In the event of the dissolution of the Council of the Republic, the newly elected composition of the Council of the Republic shall exercise its powers until the beginning of the powers of the Council of the Republic of the new convocation.

The message about the date of the elections is made public (published) in the media and posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the Internet the next day after the elections are called.

Article 98. Requirements for candidates for membership of the Council of the Republic

A candidate for membership in the Council of the Republic may be a citizen of the Republic of Belarus who has reached 30 years of age and has lived in the territory of the relevant region or the city of Minsk for at least five years.

The following citizens cannot be nominated as candidates for members of the Council of the Republic:

in respect of which there is a court conviction that has entered into legal force;

having citizenship (nationality) of another state and (or) documents of foreign states that provide rights to benefits and advantages in connection with political, religious views or nationality.

Article 99. Incompatibility of the status of a member of the Council of the Republic with the official position and powers of a deputy of the House of Representatives

A member of the Council of the Republic cannot simultaneously be the President of the Republic of Belarus, a deputy of the House of Representatives, a member of the Government of the Republic of Belarus, or a judge.

Article 100. Nomination of candidates for members of the Council of the Republic

The nomination of candidates for members of the Council of the Republic begins 15 days later and ends no later than 25 days after the single voting day.

The right to nominate candidates for members of the Council of the Republic belongs to the presidiums of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level and the corresponding executive committees - district, city (cities of regional subordination), and in the city of Minsk - the presidium of the Minsk City Council of Deputies and the Minsk City Executive Committee. At least two-thirds of the members of the relevant presidium of the Council of Deputies and the executive committee must participate in the joint meeting of these bodies.

The decision of a joint meeting of the presidium of the local Council of Deputies of the base level and the corresponding executive committee to nominate a candidate for membership in the Council of the Republic is made by a majority vote of their members.

The presidium of the district, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies and the corresponding executive committee can nominate only one candidate for membership of the Council of the Republic. The same candidate for membership of the Council of the Republic can be nominated by several presidiums of district, city (cities of regional subordination) Councils of Deputies and the corresponding executive committees.

The decision to nominate a person as a candidate for member of the Council of the Republic shall indicate the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city, urban

settlement or rural locality) indicating the district), party affiliation and time of residence in the region, the city of Minsk.

The decision to nominate a person as a candidate member of the Council of the Republic is submitted to the Central Commission no later than three days from the date the decision is made, along with the following documents:

a written statement from a person nominated as a candidate for member of the Council of the Republic, agreeing to run for the Council of the Republic from the region, the city of Minsk; biographical data of the person nominated as a candidate for member of the Council of the Republic, in the form established by the Central Commission;

a declaration of income and property of a person nominated as a candidate for membership of the Council of the Republic, in the form approved by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus;

a written statement of consent, when elected as a member of the Council of the Republic, to dismiss an employee from his position or to terminate the powers of a deputy of the House of Representatives - for the persons specified in Article <u>99</u> of this Code.

Article 101. Registration of candidates for members of the Council of the Republic

Candidates for members of the Council of the Republic are registered by the Central Commission. The decision to register a candidate for membership in the Council of the Republic is made on the basis of the documents received before registration, specified in part six of Article 100 of this Code.

Registration of candidates for members of the Council of the Republic begins 25 days later and ends no later than 35 days after the single voting day.

The Central Commission checks the compliance of the procedure for nominating candidates for members of the Council of the Republic, draws up a conclusion on this and makes a decision on registration of candidates for members of the Council of the Republic or a reasoned decision to refuse registration. The decision of the Central Commission to refuse registration within three days from the date of the decision may be appealed by a person nominated as a candidate for member of the Council of the Republic to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus considers the complaint within three days; his decision is final. Registered candidates for membership of the Council of the Republic are issued appropriate certificates.

A candidate for member of the Council of the Republic, from the day of his registration until the day of publication of the election results, cannot be sent on a business trip without his consent, or called up for military service or military training.

The Central Commission, no later than the fourth day after registration of candidates for members of the Council of the Republic, sends to the print media for publication, and also places on its official website on the global computer network the Internet a message about the registration of candidates for members of the Council of the Republic, indicating the last name, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, employee position (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city, urban settlement or rural locality

indicating the district), party affiliation, time of residence in the region, the city of Minsk each candidate.

CHAPTER 21

CONDUCTING A MEETING OF DEPUTIES OF LOCAL COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES OF THE BASIC LEVEL OF THE REGION, DEPUTIES OF THE MINSK CITY COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 102. The procedure for convening and holding a meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies for the election of members of the Council of the Republic

A meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies for the election of members of the Council of the Republic is convened no later than 40 days after a single voting day by a joint decision of the presidium of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk City Executive Committee, adopted by the majority votes from their composition. At least two-thirds of the members of the relevant presidium of the Council of Deputies and the executive committee must participate in the joint meeting of these bodies. The date of the meeting is determined in the decision.

of Deputies of the basic level of the region, Minsk City Council of Deputies takes part in it. At the same time, at least one quarter of the deputies from each local Council of Deputies of the basic level must take part in the meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region.

The meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies for the election of members of the Council of the Republic is opened by the chairman of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and leads it until the chairman of the meeting is elected.

To ensure the work of the meeting, a secretariat and a counting commission are elected.

Based on the proposal of the chairman of the meeting, a decision is made to recognize as competent the meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies.

At the meeting, the conclusion of the Central Commission on the competence of nominating candidates for members of the Council of the Republic from the region, the city of Minsk and its report on their registration are heard.

The decision of the meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies is made by a majority vote from the number of participating deputies of these Councils.

Article 103. Discussion of candidates proposed for election as members of the Council of the Republic

At a meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies for the election of members of the Council of

the Republic, a discussion is held of candidates for members of the Council of the Republic nominated at joint meetings of the presidiums of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, the Minsk City Council of Deputies and the relevant executive committees. Nomination of other candidates for members of the Council of the Republic at a meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies is not carried out.

Candidates for members of the Council of the Republic speak at the meeting with a program of upcoming activities.

Each deputy participating in the meeting has the right to ask questions to a candidate for membership in the Council of the Republic, express his opinion, and campaign for or against the nominated candidacy.

Discussion of candidates is terminated by decision of the meeting.

A candidate for member of the Council of the Republic may withdraw his candidacy at a meeting.

At the meeting, a decision is made to include candidates for members of the Council of the Republic on the ballot.

Article 104. Organization of voting for the election of members of the Council of the Republic

To organize secret voting for the election of members of the Council of the Republic and determine its results, deputies participating in the meeting elect from among themselves a counting commission of 9–15 members. The counting commission cannot include candidates for members of the Council of the Republic.

The Counting Commission elects a chairman, deputy chairman and secretary of the commission from among its members. The decisions of the counting commission are made by a majority vote of its members.

Ballot papers are prepared by the counting commission in the form established by the Central Commission in the quantity corresponding to the number of participants in the meeting. The text of the ballot is approved by the counting commission.

Candidates for members of the Council of the Republic are included in the voting ballot in alphabetical order, indicating the surname, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city; urban-type settlement or rural settlement, indicating the district), party affiliation and time of residence in the region, the city of Minsk of each candidate. An empty square is placed to the right of each candidate's information. At the end of the list of candidates, the line "Against all candidates" is placed with an empty square located to the right of it. If, during repeat elections or elections of a member of the Council of the Republic, instead of the one who retired, the name of only one candidate for member of the Council of the Republic is included in the ballot, then the text of the ballot must contain the words "for" and "against", under which empty squares are placed.

The back side of the ballot paper is signed by at least two persons who are members of the counting commission.

Voting for the election of members of the Council of the Republic is carried out in a specially designated room, in which a sufficient number of booths or rooms for secret voting are equipped, and places for issuing ballots are determined. Voting boxes are installed in such a way that voters, when approaching them, must pass through booths or rooms for secret voting.

The time, place and procedure for voting are established by the counting commission and announced by its chairman.

Before voting begins, ballot boxes are checked, sealed or sealed by the chairman of the counting commission in the presence of members of the counting commission.

Each deputy taking part in the meeting is given a voting ballot. Ballots are issued by members of the counting commission in accordance with the list of deputies taking part in the meeting, upon presentation by the deputy of his deputy ID. The deputy signs for receipt of the ballot in the list of deputies.

Article 105. Conducting voting on elections of members of the Council of the Republic

When electing members of the Council of the Republic, each participant in the meeting votes personally. Voting for other deputies is not allowed.

Ballots are filled out in a booth or room for secret voting. When voting, a meeting participant places any sign in the empty squares located to the right of the names of those candidates for whom he votes, but not more than eight, or in the square located to the right of the line "Against all candidates." If the name of only one candidate is included in the ballot, then when voting for a candidate, the meeting participant puts any sign in the square under the word "for", and when voting against a candidate, puts any sign in the square under the word "against".

The deputy places the completed ballot in the ballot box. Ballot boxes must be within sight of the members of the counting commission.

Article 106. Establishment of voting results for elections of members of the Council of the Republic

The counting of votes of deputies must be carried out directly by members of the counting commission without interruption until the voting results are received.

Based on the list of deputies registered to participate in the meeting, the Counting Commission establishes the total number of deputies participating in the meeting, as well as the number of deputies who received ballots. Based on the ballots in the ballot box, the counting commission establishes the total number of deputies who took part in the voting, the number of votes cast for each candidate for membership in the Council of the Republic, and the number of votes cast against all candidates (if voting was carried out on one candidate , – the number of votes cast against the candidate), the number of ballots declared invalid.

Ballots of an unspecified sample are recognized as invalid, as well as ballots in which signs are placed in more squares than should be elected members of the Council of the Republic from the region, the city of Minsk, or a sign is not placed in any of them, or ballots in which only the surname is entered one candidate and the sign is placed in two squares or is not placed in any of them, as well as ballots on the reverse side of which there are no signatures of persons included in the counting commission.

The results of the vote count are considered at a meeting of the counting commission and entered into the minutes. Filling out the protocol in pencil and making any corrections to it are not allowed.

The protocol is drawn up in two copies, which are signed by the entire composition of the counting commission.

Based on the report of the counting commission, at a meeting of deputies, a decision is made by open vote to approve the voting results.

A candidate for membership in the Council of the Republic who receives more than half of the votes of the deputies who took part in the voting is considered elected.

If during the elections the established number of members of the Council of the Republic to be elected from the region or the city of Minsk was not elected, repeat elections are held within the period determined by the Central Commission in the manner prescribed by Section VI of this <u>Code</u>.

Attached to the minutes of the counting commission is a list of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies who took part in the meeting, as well as special opinions, if any, of members of the counting commission and statements of other persons about violations of the requirements of this Code committed during voting or during the counting of votes, and decisions taken on them.

The first copies of the decision of the meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies on the approval of the voting results for the election of members of the Council of the Republic, the minutes of the meeting of the counting commission, along with the list of deputies who took part in the meeting, are transferred to Central Commission.

Article 107. Establishment of the results of elections of members of the Council of the Republic by the Central Commission

The Central Commission, on the basis of received documents specified in part ten <u>of Article</u> <u>106</u> of this Code, establishes the results of elections of members of the Council of the Republic from the regions and the city of Minsk and registers the elected members of the Council of the Republic.

The Central Commission may declare the election of a member of the Council of the Republic invalid if during the elections, during the counting of votes or when establishing the election results, there were violations of the requirements of this Code that affected the results of the elections, and refuse to register a member of the Council of the Republic. The decision of the Central Commission to recognize the elections as invalid may be appealed by a candidate for member of the Council of the Republic to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days from the date of the decision.

If, during the elections of a member (members) of the Council of the Republic from the region, the city of Minsk, the elections were declared invalid, repeat elections are held within the period established by the Central Commission. Repeat elections are appointed by the Central Commission and conducted in the manner established by Section VI of this Code.

Article 108. Publication of the results of elections of members of the Council of the Republic

A message on the results of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic and a list of elected members of the Council of the Republic from the regions, the city of Minsk in alphabetical order, indicating the last name, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth, employee position (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city, urban-type settlement or rural settlement indicating the district), party affiliation of each member of the Council of the Republic, the Central Commission sends it to the print media for publication, and also posts it on its official website on the global computer network Internet no later than three days the period from the date of establishment of the results of elections of members of the Council of the Republic.

Article 109. Certificate of election as a member of the Council of the Republic

After registration, the Central Commission issues each member of the Council of the Republic a certificate of his election.

Article 110. Conducting elections of a member of the Council of the Republic instead of a retired one

In the event of revocation or early termination for other reasons of the powers of an elected member of the Council of the Republic, new elections of a member of the Council of the Republic are held within the period established by the Central Commission. Elections to replace a retired member of the Council of the Republic are appointed by the Central Commission and are carried out in the manner established by Section VI of this Code.

If an elected member of the Council of the Republic retires less than a year before the expiration of the term of office of the Council of the Republic, elections for a new member of the Council of the Republic in place of the retired member are not held.

Article 110 ¹. Monitoring the constitutionality of elections of members of the Council of the Republic

The Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, no later than five days from the date of publication of the results of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic, has the right to apply to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus with a proposal to give an opinion on the constitutionality of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic. In this case, the convening of the first session of the Council of the Republic after the elections is suspended for the period of consideration of such a proposal by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus.

If a proposal is submitted to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus to give an opinion on the constitutionality of holding elections of members of the Council of the Republic, the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly simultaneously informs the Central Commission about this.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus gives an opinion on the constitutionality of holding elections of members of the Council of the Republic within ten days from the date of submission of such a proposal.

The conclusion of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus on the unconstitutionality of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic is the basis for the Central Commission to invalidate the elections and cancel the previously adopted decision on the results of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic. In this case, repeat elections of members of the Council of the Republic are appointed and held in the manner established by Section VI of this Code, taking into account the specifics provided for by this article.

The decision to call repeat elections of members of the Council of the Republic is made by the Central Commission no later than 10 days from the date the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus issued a conclusion on the unconstitutionality of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic.

Article 110 ². Consideration by the All-Belarusian People's Assembly of the issue of the legitimacy of elections of members of the Council of the Republic

The Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly or at least one third of the full composition of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, no later than five days from the date of publication of the results of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic, has the right to apply to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly with a proposal to consider the issue of the legitimacy of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic. In this case, the convening of the first session of the Council of the Republic after the elections is suspended for the period of consideration of such a proposal by the All-Belarusian People's Assembly.

If a proposal is made to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly to consider the issue of the legitimacy of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic, the Presidium of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly simultaneously informs the Central Commission about this.

The All-Belarusian People's Assembly considers the issue of the legitimacy of elections of members of the Council of the Republic within ten days from the date such a proposal is submitted.

The decision of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly on the illegitimacy of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic is the basis for the Central Commission to declare the elections invalid and cancel the previously adopted decision on the results of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic. In this case, repeat elections of members of the Council of the Republic are appointed and held in the manner established by Section VI of this Code, taking into account the specifics provided for by this article.

The decision to call repeat elections of members of the Council of the Republic is made by the Central Commission no later than 10 days from the date of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly's decision on the illegitimacy of the elections of members of the Council of the Republic.

SECTION VII REFERENDUM

CHAPTER 22 CONCEPT, TYPES AND PURPOSE OF REFERENDUM. ISSUES SUBMITTED TO THE REFERENDUM

Article 111. Concept, types and purpose of a referendum

A referendum is a way for citizens of the Republic of Belarus to make decisions on the most important issues of state and public life.

Republican and local referendums may be held in the Republic of Belarus.

Article 112. Issues submitted to referendum

The most important issues of state and public life of the Republic of Belarus, including draft amendments and additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus or a draft of another decision, may be submitted to a republican referendum.

Issues that are of utmost importance for the population of the relevant administrative-territorial units and fall within the competence of the relevant local Councils of Deputies, executive and administrative bodies may be submitted to a local referendum.

The following questions cannot be submitted to a republican referendum:

which may cause a violation of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Belarus;

related to the election and dismissal of the President of the Republic of Belarus, the appointment (election, dismissal) of officials, the appointment (election, dismissal) of which falls within the competence of the President of the Republic of Belarus, the All-Belarusian People's Assembly and the chambers of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus;

on the adoption and amendment of the budget, the establishment, amendment and abolition of taxes, fees (duties);

about amnesty, about pardon.

Issues listed in part three of this article, issues of importance for the Republic of Belarus as a whole, issues regulated by legislative acts, as well as issues related to the appointment of an employee, confirmation in the position of an employee or dismissal of an employee are not subject to a local referendum. , falling within the competence of the local executive and administrative body or its head.

CHAPTER 23 INITIATION AND APPOINTMENT OF A REPUBLICAN REFERENDUM

Article 113. Right of initiative to hold a republican referendum

The right of initiative to hold a republican referendum belongs to the President of the Republic of Belarus, the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, the House of Representatives and the Council of the Republic, and citizens of the Republic of Belarus.

The initiative of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly to hold a republican referendum is expressed in the form of a proposal, which is adopted by a majority vote of the full composition of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly and submitted to the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The initiative of the House of Representatives and the Council of the Republic to hold a republican referendum is expressed in the form of a proposal, which is adopted at their separate meetings by a majority vote of the full composition of each chamber and submitted to the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The initiative of citizens to hold a republican referendum is expressed in the form of a proposal submitted by at least 450 thousand citizens with the right to vote, including at least 30 thousand citizens from each region and the city of Minsk.

Article 114. Initiative group for holding a republican referendum

If citizens come forward with the initiative to hold a republican referendum, they form a referendum group (hereinafter referred to as the initiative group) from among the persons entitled to participate in the referendum, numbering at least 100 people, approximately equally representing citizens from each region and the city of Minsk.

The initiative group applies to the Central Commission with an application for registration of the initiative group and the issue proposed by it for a referendum. Attached to the application are the minutes of the meeting of the initiative group, at which the decision was made to form the group, put forward the initiative to hold a referendum, the issue proposed for the referendum, the election of the group leader and coordinators for the regions and the city of Minsk, a list of meeting participants signed by the chairman and secretary of the meeting, as well as a list of members of the initiative group who agreed to participate in the work of the initiative group, which must be confirmed by their handwritten signatures, the authenticity of which is subject to notarization.

A meeting of the initiative group is valid if more than half of the members of the initiative group took part in it. The decisions of the meeting are made by a majority vote of its participants.

In the list of the initiative group, in relation to each member of the group, the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (number of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus) are indicated. The list of the initiative group also indicates the head of the group and coordinators for districts, cities of regional subordination, districts in cities, if the collection of signatures will be carried out on their territory.

The question submitted for a republican referendum must be formulated by the initiative group clearly and clearly so that an unambiguous answer is possible. The wording of the question proposed for a referendum can be clarified with the consent of the initiative group, about which the minutes of the group meeting must be submitted.

The documents submitted by the initiative group on holding a republican referendum, and the question proposed for the referendum, are sent by the Central Commission for conclusion to the Ministry of Justice and the Prosecutor General's Office, which check the compliance of the issue with the requirements of the law and compliance with the procedure for forming the initiative group.

The issue proposed for the republican referendum, taking into account the conclusion of the Ministry of Justice and the Prosecutor General's Office, and the composition of the initiative group are registered by the Central Commission. Registration is refused in case of violation of legal requirements. The refusal to register an initiative group can be appealed within a month to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus by the head of the initiative group.

After registration of the initiative group, the Central Commission issues it a registration certificate and a sample sheet for collecting signatures of citizens in support of the proposal to hold a republican referendum (hereinafter referred to as the signature sheet), and the members of the initiative group - the corresponding certificates.

Article 114 1. Fund of the initiative group for holding a republican referendum

Financing of expenses associated with the collection of signatures of citizens in support of the proposal to hold a republican referendum and campaigning to initiate a republican referendum by citizens is carried out from the funds of the initiative group for holding a republican referendum (hereinafter referred to as the initiative group fund).

The initiative group fund can be formed from the following funds:

- 1) voluntary donations from members of the initiative group and other citizens of the Republic of Belarus. The size of a citizen's donation cannot exceed 15 basic units;
- 2) voluntary donations from legal entities. The size of a donation from a legal entity cannot exceed 30 basic units.

The maximum amount of all expenses from the initiative group fund cannot exceed 3,000 basic units.

of Article 48 1 of this Code are not entitled to make donations to the initiative group fund.

To form an initiative group fund, the head of the initiative group, no later than ten days from the date of registration of the initiative group, must open a special account for holding a republican referendum (hereinafter referred to as the special account) in a division of the open joint-stock company Savings Bank Belarusbank. The basis for opening a special account is an application from the head of the initiative group and a copy of the decision of the Central Commission on registration of the initiative group.

The head of the initiative group has the right to open only one special account. There is no fee for bank services for opening a special account and conducting transactions on the account. The bank does not pay interest for the use of funds in a special account. The Central Commission sends information about the opening of a special account to the print media for publication, and also posts on its official website on the global computer network Internet.

The procedure for opening a special account, conducting transactions on the account, and closing the account is determined by the Central Commission in agreement with the open joint-stock company Savings Bank Belarusbank.

The right to manage the funds of the initiative group fund belongs to the head of the initiative group.

The head of the initiative group has the right to appoint a representative of the initiative group on financial issues (hereinafter referred to as the representative on financial issues). Registration of a representative on financial issues is carried out by the Central Commission based on an application from the head of the initiative group. The application shall indicate the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence of the representative on financial matters, series, number and date of issue of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (number and date of issue of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus). The Central Commission, within three days from the date of receipt of the application, registers the representative on financial issues and issues him a certificate.

The financial representative has the right to open a special account, manage the funds in this account, and submit reports on the receipt and expenditure of funds. The head of the initiative group has the right to recall the representative on financial issues at any time by reporting this to the Central Commission, as well as to the bank division in which the special account is opened.

Funds from the initiative group fund can be used to pay for expenses and services related to the collection of signatures of citizens, including wages and other payments in accordance with the law to members of the initiative group for collecting signatures of citizens in support of the proposal to hold a republican referendum, as well as for payment other expenses directly related to the referendum campaign, in the manner established by the Central Commission.

The bank division in which the special account is opened submits weekly information to the Central Commission on the receipt and expenditure of funds in the special account. The Central Commission, within two days after receiving the information, sends it to the print media for publication, and also posts on its official website on the global computer network Internet information about the total amount of funds received by the initiative group fund and the total amount of funds spent.

Control over the receipt and expenditure of funds from the initiative group fund is carried out by the Central Commission and financial authorities.

Making donations to the initiative group fund, returning donations and terminating banking operations on a special account are carried out in relation to the requirements provided for in parts eight, eleven, nineteen and twentieth of Article 48 1 of this Code.

The head of the initiative group is obliged to submit financial reports on the expenditure of funds from the initiative group fund to the Central Commission with the following frequency:

first report – 20 days after registration of the initiative group;

the second report – no later than five days from the end of the period for collecting citizens' signatures;

third report – 20 days after the referendum was called;

final report – no later than five days from the day of voting on the referendum.

The report is accompanied by primary financial documents confirming the receipt, return and expenditure of funds from the initiative group fund, certificates of remaining funds and (or) closure of a special account. If the Central Commission rejects the proposal to hold a referendum, the head of the initiative group submits a financial report to the Central

Commission no later than five days from the date the Central Commission made a decision to reject the proposal to hold a referendum.

If the Central Commission rejects the proposal to hold a referendum, the Central Commission informs the bank division in writing about this, which stops all operations on the special account.

Article 115. Collection of signatures of citizens

The collection of citizens' signatures in support of the proposal to hold a referendum is carried out only by members of the initiative group within two months from the date of registration of the initiative group.

Signature sheets must contain the wording of the registered issue proposed for the referendum and (or) a statement of the essence of the proposed decision, as well as the surname, first name and patronymic (if any) of the member of the initiative group collecting signatures, indicating the number of the certificate of registration of the initiative group and the authority that issued it. A member of the initiative group collecting signatures is obliged, at the request of a citizen, to present for review the full text of the decision proposed for the referendum.

The signature sheet must contain signatures of citizens living in the territory of only one city of regional subordination, district, and in cities with regional division - one district.

The signature sheet for a citizen supporting the proposal to hold a referendum shall indicate the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (number of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus) or details of another document determined by the Central Commission. Data about the citizen is entered into the signature sheet in handwriting. The citizen personally puts the signature date on the signature sheet and signs. Signatures are numbered.

A citizen has the right to sign in support of a referendum proposal only once.

The signature sheet is certified by the member of the initiative group who collected the signatures. When certifying the signature sheet, a member of the initiative group puts a signature and the date of its entry, and also indicates the surname and initials.

Coercion of citizens of the Republic of Belarus in order to obtain a signature on the signature sheet, as well as the use of illegal forms of collecting signatures is prohibited.

Article 116. Consideration of citizens' initiative to hold a republican referendum

Signature sheets are submitted by coordinators for districts, cities, districts in cities no later than the expiration of the period established for collecting signatures, to the district, city executive committee, to the local administration, which within ten days check the authenticity of citizens' signatures on the signature sheets. At the same time, at least 20 percent of citizens' signatures on signature sheets submitted by district, city, and city district coordinators must be verified.

The determination of the procedure for verifying and recording the signatures of citizens in the signature sheets submitted to the bodies specified in part one of this article, as well as the recognition of citizens' signatures as unreliable, are carried out in the manner prescribed by parts nineteen and twenty-one of Article 61 of this <u>Code</u>. Signatures of citizens collected before the registration of the initiative group are also considered unreliable. Signatures of citizens are not subject to verification and recording if the signature sheet does not contain the wording of the question proposed for the referendum and (or) a statement of the substance of the proposed decision. If the signature sheet received by the district, city executive committee, local administration contains signatures of citizens living in the territory of different districts, cities of regional subordination, districts in the city, only signatures collected in the territory of that district, city, district are subject to verification and recording in the city, to the executive committee of which this subscription sheet was submitted to the local administration. Other signatures are not verified and are not taken into account.

If several signatures of the same citizen are detected, only one signature is considered reliable, and the remaining signatures are considered unreliable.

If the number of invalid signatures of citizens detected during verification is more than 15 percent of the number of verified signatures, an additional verification of another 15 percent of the signatures of the number of signatures in the signature sheets submitted to the relevant district, city executive committee, or local administration is carried out.

If the total number of unreliable signatures of citizens identified during checks is more than 15 percent of the total number of verified signatures on signature sheets, all signatures of citizens on submitted signature sheets are not taken into account when determining the result of collecting signatures in a district, city, or district within a city.

The results of the collection of signatures of citizens in signature sheets in support of the initiative to hold a republican referendum are made by a decision of the relevant district, city executive committee, local administration, which is sent accordingly to the regional, Minsk city executive committee. The decision shall indicate the total number of signatures on the signature sheets received from the initiative group; the number of signatures whose authenticity was verified; the number of signatures recognized as reliable and the number of signatures recognized as unreliable.

The regional, Minsk city executive committee, if necessary, can also check the authenticity of citizens' signatures on the signature sheets within five days. Based on the decisions of district, city executive committees, local administrations to establish the number of citizens who put their signatures on the signature sheets in support of the initiative to hold a referendum, and the results of checks carried out by the regional, Minsk city executive committee on the authenticity of signatures of citizens in the signature sheets of the regional, Minsk city executive The committee sums up the results of collecting signatures for the region and the city of Minsk, makes a decision on this and sends it to the Central Commission. The decision shall indicate the data provided for in part six of this article. A copy of the decision is transferred to the coordinator of the initiative group for the region, the city of Minsk.

After decisions are made by the regional and Minsk city executive committees, the initiative group draws up a final act on the collection of signatures and submits it to the Central Commission.

Central Commission:

checks the compliance of the final act of the initiative group and the received decisions of the regional and Minsk city executive committees with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation;

draws up a conclusion on the initiative group's compliance with the requirements of this Code and a protocol on the results of collecting signatures, confirming the presence of at least 450 thousand signatures of citizens, including at least 30 thousand signatures of citizens from each region and the city of Minsk.

The final act of the initiative group, together with its conclusion and protocol, if there are no grounds for rejecting the proposal to hold a referendum, is transferred by the Central Commission to the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The Central Commission rejects the proposal to hold a referendum and informs the initiative group and the President of the Republic of Belarus about this in the following cases:

violation of the deadline for collecting citizens' signatures;

lack of the required number of signatures;

identifying violations of the principle of voluntariness during the collection of signatures recorded in the manner established by the Central Commission;

submission by the initiative group of more than 15 percent of false signatures from the total number of verified signatures of citizens in the signature sheets;

lack of a special account;

exceeding by more than 20 percent the maximum amount of expenditure of funds from the initiative group fund specified in part three of <u>Article 114 ¹</u> of this Code, or using the same amount of funds in addition to the funds of this fund;

establishing in the submitted documents other violations of the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation.

The decision of the Central Commission to reject the proposal to hold a referendum can be appealed within a month to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus by the head of the initiative group.

The repeated initiation by citizens of holding a referendum on the same issue is allowed no earlier than one year after the rejection of the proposal to hold a referendum and no earlier than three years after the holding of a referendum on this issue.

Article 117. Decision to call a republican referendum

The President of the Republic of Belarus calls a republican referendum on his own initiative or within two months after proposals from the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, the chambers of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus or citizens are submitted for its consideration in accordance with this Code.

Before calling a republican referendum, the issue submitted to the referendum, at the proposal of the President of the Republic of Belarus, is subject to verification by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus for compliance with the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus. The case on the constitutionality of a question submitted to a republican

referendum is considered and resolved within ten days from the date such a proposal is submitted to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus.

If the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus issues an opinion on the constitutionality of an issue submitted to a republican referendum, the President of the Republic of Belarus calls a republican referendum. The decision of the President of the Republic of Belarus to call a referendum is formalized by decree.

The conclusion of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus on the unconstitutionality of the issue submitted to the republican referendum entails the inadmissibility of calling a referendum on this issue.

The decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus on calling a referendum, as a rule, provides for:

date of the referendum;

the legal force of the decision adopted by the referendum;

the wording of the question(s) submitted for referendum;

other organizational measures to ensure the holding of the referendum.

If a draft of amendments and additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus is submitted for a referendum, it is attached to the decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus on calling a referendum.

The date of the referendum is set no later than three months from the date of issuance of the decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus on calling the referendum.

The Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus on calling a referendum, the text of the draft amendments and additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus or a draft other decision submitted for a referendum are published in the print media, made public in other media, posted on the global computer network Internet in the manner established by the President The Republic of Belarus.

The President of the Republic of Belarus has the right to reject a proposal to hold a referendum if it does not comply with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation. The President of the Republic of Belarus rejects the proposal to hold a referendum if the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus has given a conclusion on the unconstitutionality of the issue submitted to the republican referendum. The decision of the President of the Republic of Belarus to reject the referendum is formalized by decree.

Article 118. Voting ballot

The ballot paper accurately reproduces the wording of the question submitted for referendum and indicates the options for expressing the will of the voter with the words "for" or "against", under which empty squares are placed.

When several questions are submitted to a referendum, they are included in one ballot and numbered sequentially. If alternative draft decisions on the same issue or alternative versions of any norm of the draft decision are proposed, they are also numbered sequentially.

When submitting a draft amendments and additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus to a referendum, the Central Commission may decide to publish in the print media, post on its official website on the global computer network Internet the texts of the draft amendments and additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, submitted to a referendum, and the current Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, which is proposed to be changed or supplemented. These texts must be placed on the premises of each voting station for public viewing.

If republican and local referendums are held simultaneously, the ballot papers used in each of them must differ in color and (or) have a distinctive mark.

The production of ballot papers for voting on the republican referendum is ensured by the Central Commission.

The number of ballots produced cannot be less than the number of referendum participants included in the lists of citizens entitled to participate in the referendum. The number of reserve ballots should not exceed 5 percent of the number of referendum participants. The specific number of ballots produced is determined by the Central Commission.

The transfer of ballots to lower-level commissions for holding a republican referendum, including precinct commissions, is carried out according to an act. Precinct commissions are provided with ballots no later than the day preceding the day of early voting, and precinct commissions that do not conduct early voting - no later than the day preceding the day of the referendum. Responsibility for the safety of ballots lies with the chairmen of the commissions responsible for receiving, transmitting and storing ballots.

Voting papers are printed in Belarusian or Russian.

The voting ballot must contain an explanation of the procedure for filling it out.

The back side of the ballot paper is signed by at least two persons who are members of the precinct referendum commission.

Ballots for voting on the republican referendum after the results of the vote are established, together with the protocols of the precinct commissions, are submitted to the district, city, and district commissions in cities.

CHAPTER 24 ESTABLISHING THE RESULTS AND SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF THE REPUBLICAN REFERENDUM

Article 119. Establishment of the results of a referendum for a district, city, district in a city

On the basis of protocols received from precinct referendum commissions and drawn up in accordance with the requirements of <u>Article 55</u> of this Code, district, city, and city-district referendum commissions establish:

the total number of citizens in a district, city, district within a city who have the right to participate in a referendum;

the number of citizens who received ballot papers;

the number of citizens who took part in the vote, including the number of citizens who took part in early voting, the number of citizens who took part in voting at their location, and the number of citizens who took part in voting on the day of the referendum in the premises of the polling station;

the number of those who voted for the approval of the issue submitted to the referendum and the number of those who voted against its approval;

number of ballots declared invalid;

the number of ballots issued to precinct referendum commissions;

number of spoiled ballots;

number of unused ballots.

The results of a referendum in districts, cities, districts in cities are established at meetings of district, city, district in cities referendum commissions and are entered into the minutes. The protocol is signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and members of the relevant referendum commission and transferred no later than the third day after voting day personally by the chairman or deputy chairman or secretary of the commission to the regional, Minsk city referendum commission. Attached, if any, to the protocol sent to the regional or Minsk city referendum commission are special opinions of the commission members, statements of other persons about violations committed during the voting or during the counting of votes, and the decisions of the commission adopted on them.

Article 120. Establishment of the results of the referendum in the regions and the city of Minsk

Based on the protocols of district, city, district referendum commissions in cities, regional and Minsk city referendum commissions establish:

the total number of citizens in the region, the city of Minsk, who have the right to participate in the referendum;

the number of citizens who received ballot papers;

the number of citizens who took part in the vote, including the number of citizens who took part in early voting, the number of citizens who took part in voting at their location, and the number of citizens who took part in voting on the day of the referendum in the premises of the polling station;

the number of those who voted for the approval of the issue submitted to the referendum and the number of those who voted against its approval;

number of ballots declared invalid;

the number of ballots issued to district, city, and city district referendum commissions; number of spoiled ballots;

number of unused ballots.

The results of the referendum in the regions and the city of Minsk are established at meetings of the regional and Minsk city referendum commissions and are entered into the minutes. The protocol is signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and members of the regional and Minsk city referendum commissions and transferred no later than the fourth day after voting day personally by the chairman or deputy chairman or secretary of the commission to the Central Commission. Attached, if any, to the protocol sent to the Central Commission are special opinions of members of the commission, statements of other persons about violations committed during voting or during the counting of votes, and the decisions of the commission taken on them.

Article 121. Summing up the results of the referendum

Based on the protocols of the regional and Minsk city referendum commissions, the Central Commission establishes:

the total number of citizens entitled to participate in the referendum;

the number of citizens who received ballot papers;

the number of citizens who took part in the vote, including the number of citizens who took part in early voting, the number of citizens who took part in voting at their location, and the number of citizens who took part in voting on the day of the referendum in the premises of the polling station;

the number of those who voted for the approval of the issue submitted to the referendum and the number of those who voted against its approval;

number of ballots declared invalid.

The referendum is considered valid if more than half of the citizens included in the voting lists took part in the voting. A decision is considered to have been adopted by a referendum if more than half of the citizens who took part in the voting voted for it in the Republic of Belarus as a whole.

The results of the referendum are established at a meeting of the Central Commission and entered into the minutes. The protocol is signed by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary and members of the Central Commission.

The Central Commission, on the proposal of the relevant referendum commissions and the bodies that formed the commissions, as well as on the grounds established by it, may recognize the results of a referendum in a region, district, city, district in a city, or at a polling station as invalid due to violations of the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation.

The message on the results of the referendum is published in the print media by the Central Commission within seven days, and is also posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet. The message shall indicate the total number of citizens entitled to participate in the referendum; the number of citizens who received ballot papers; the number of citizens who took part in the vote; the number of those who voted for the approval of the issue submitted to the referendum and the number of those who voted against its approval; number of ballots declared invalid.

Article 122. Repeat voting

Upon the proposal of the Prosecutor General about violations committed during the referendum, the Central Commission has the right to decide either to hold a repeat vote within a month in those polling stations and other territories where violations were committed, or to hold a repeat vote throughout the year throughout the year. territory of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 123. Publication and entry into force of the decision adopted by the referendum

The decision adopted by the referendum is signed by the President of the Republic of Belarus and is subject to immediate and mandatory official publication after its signing.

The decision adopted by the referendum comes into force 10 days after its official publication, unless a different period is established.

The date of adoption of the referendum decision is considered to be the day of the referendum.

Article 124. Legal force of the decision adopted by the referendum

The legal force of the decision adopted by the referendum is determined by the decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus on calling the referendum.

Decisions made by a referendum can only be canceled or changed by a referendum, unless otherwise determined by a referendum.

If the implementation of a decision made by a referendum requires the adoption (issue) of any legal act, it must be adopted (issued) within five months from the date of entry into force of the decision made by the referendum, unless otherwise determined by the referendum.

CHAPTER 25 PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING AND CONDUCTING A LOCAL REFERENDUM

Article 125. Procedure for preparing and holding a local referendum

Implementation of the right of citizens' initiative to hold a local referendum, consideration of citizens' initiative to hold a local referendum, its preparation and conduct, procedure and timing for the formation of voting stations, relevant referendum commissions, powers and organization of their activities, compilation of lists of citizens entitled to participate in a referendum, the procedure for voting, summing up and publishing the results of a referendum is carried out in relation to the norms of legislation on a republican referendum, unless otherwise established by Chapter 25 of this Code.

Article 126. Right of initiative to hold a local referendum

The right of initiative to hold a local referendum belongs to local representative bodies and citizens of the Republic of Belarus permanently residing in the territory of the relevant region, district, city, district in a city, village, village council. Citizens' initiative is expressed in the form of a proposal submitted by at least 10 percent of citizens who have the right to vote and live in the relevant territory.

If citizens put forward an initiative to hold a local referendum, they form an initiative group from among the persons entitled to participate in the referendum, in the number of:

in the region and the city of Minsk - at least 50 people;

in a district, city, district within a city - at least 20 people;

in a village or village council - at least 10 people.

Documents on holding a local referendum, presented by the initiative group, and the issue proposed for the referendum, are sent by the local executive and administrative body for conclusion to the relevant regional, Minsk city justice body, which checks the compliance of the issue submitted for the referendum with the requirements of the law and compliance with the procedure for forming an initiative groups.

The issue proposed for a local referendum, taking into account the conclusion of the relevant regional, Minsk city justice body and the composition of the initiative group, is registered by the relevant local executive and administrative body.

Within 30 days from the date of application for registration, the initiative group is issued a certificate of registration, a sample signature sheet, and members of the initiative group are issued corresponding certificates.

Registration of an initiative group to hold a local referendum is refused in case of violation of the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation. The refusal can be appealed within a month by the head of the initiative group to the district or city court.

If the executive and administrative body determines that the required number of valid signatures has been collected, the initiative group for holding a local referendum draws up a final act and submits it to the relevant executive and administrative body, which transmits it to the local Council of Deputies.

Article 127. Decision to call a local referendum

The decision to call a regional, Minsk city, district, city, settlement, rural referendum is made by the relevant local Council of Deputies, and the decision to call a district referendum in a city with a district division is made by the city Council of Deputies no later than 30 days from the date of submission in accordance with the requirements of this Code and other acts of legislation of such a proposal.

The legal force of a decision made by a local referendum is determined in the decision of the local Council of Deputies to call a referendum.

The local Council of Deputies, when deciding to call a referendum, ensures that citizens are familiar with the content of the issue submitted to the referendum.

The date of the referendum is set no later than three months from the date of the decision to call the referendum.

The decision of the local Council of Deputies to call a referendum is published in the print media, made public in other media, and posted on the official website of the relevant local executive and administrative body on the global computer network Internet.

Decisions made by a local referendum are signed by the head of the relevant local executive and administrative body.

Article 128. Conducting a local referendum

Preparation and conduct of a referendum on the territory of a region, city, district, district in a city, settlement, village council are carried out by the relevant referendum commissions formed in accordance with Articles <u>34–37</u> of this Code.

Article 128 ¹. Fund of the initiative group for holding a local referendum

Financing of expenses associated with the collection of signatures of citizens in support of the proposal to hold a regional, Minsk city, district, city (in a city of regional subordination) referendum and campaigning to initiate a referendum by citizens is carried out from the funds of the initiative group.

The fund of the initiative group for holding a regional, Minsk city, district, city (in a city of regional subordination) referendum can be formed from the following funds:

- 1) voluntary donations from members of the initiative group and other citizens of the Republic of Belarus. The amount of a citizen's donation to the fund for holding a regional, Minsk city referendum cannot exceed 10 basic units, and for holding a district, city (in a city of regional subordination) referendum 5 basic units;
- 2) voluntary donations from legal entities. The size of a donation from a legal entity to the fund for holding a regional or Minsk city referendum cannot exceed 20 basic units, and for holding a district, city (in a city of regional subordination) referendum 10 basic units.

The maximum amount of all expenses from the fund of the initiative group for holding a regional, Minsk city referendum cannot exceed 500 basic units, and for holding a district, city (in a city of regional subordination) referendum - 100 basic units.

An initiative group for holding a city (in a city of district subordination), township, rural referendum has the right to create an initiative group fund, which can be formed from the following funds:

- 1) voluntary donations from members of the initiative group and other citizens of the Republic of Belarus. The size of a citizen's donation cannot exceed 2 basic units;
- 2) voluntary donations from legal entities. The size of a donation from a legal entity cannot exceed 5 basic units.

The maximum amount of all expenses from the funds of the initiative group for holding a city (in a city of district subordination), township, rural referendum cannot exceed 50 basic units. of Article 48 ^{1 of this Code} are not entitled to make donations to the initiative group fund.

Control over the receipt and expenditure of funds from the initiative group fund is carried out by the financial body of the local executive and administrative body that made the decision to register the initiative group.

Opening a special account, making donations to the initiative group fund, returning donations, terminating banking operations on a special account and submitting financial reports are carried out in accordance with the requirements of Article 114 ¹ of this Code.

SECTION VIII PROCEDURE FOR RECALLING A DEPUTY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A DEPUTY OF THE LOCAL COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES

CHAPTER 26 GROUNDS AND PROCEDURE FOR IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUE OF REVOKING A DEPUTY

Article 129. Grounds for recalling a deputy

A deputy of the House of Representatives, a deputy of the local Council of Deputies, who has not lived up to the trust of voters, expressed in failure to fulfill the parliamentary duties provided for by law, violation of the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, decisions of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, laws, acts of the President of the Republic of Belarus,

committing actions discrediting the deputy, may be recalled by voters in in the manner established by this Code.

Article 130. The right to raise the issue of recalling a deputy

The right to raise the issue of recalling a deputy belongs to voters of the electoral district (hereinafter referred to as the district) from which the deputy was elected.

The issue of recalling a deputy of the House of Representatives or a deputy of the local Council of Deputies cannot be raised less than a year before the expiration of their term of office.

Article 131. Initiating the issue of recalling a deputy

The issue of recalling a deputy may be raised at a meeting of voters of the district from which the deputy was elected.

Meetings of voters can be held both at their place of residence and in organizations located within the district.

A group of voters living in the territory of the district from which the deputy was elected has the right to initiate the convening of a meeting, in an amount not less than:

150 voters - on the issue of recalling a member of the House of Representatives;

50 voters - on the issue of recalling a deputy of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies;

40 voters - on the issue of recalling a deputy of a district, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies;

15 voters - on the issue of recalling a deputy of a city (city of regional subordination), township, village Council of Deputies.

The initiators of convening a meeting of voters apply to the chairman of the local Council of Deputies, on whose territory it is planned to hold a meeting of voters, with a written application to convene such a meeting at their place of residence, and to convene a meeting of voters in the organization - to its administration.

The application for holding a meeting of voters must be signed by all initiators of the meeting, indicating the motives that served as the basis for initiating the issue of recalling the deputy, as well as the surname, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth and place of residence of each initiator of holding the meeting of voters.

The issue of convening a meeting of voters is considered respectively by the chairman or presidium of the local Council of Deputies, the administration of the organization, and a decision is made within ten days, which is reported to the initiators of convening the meeting. Upon acceptance of the proposal of the initiators of convening a meeting of voters, the date, time and place of its holding are established, which is notified to voters within three days.

If the proposal to hold a meeting of voters is rejected, its initiators are given a copy of the reasoned decision. This decision can be appealed within three days by the initiators of convening the meeting to a district or city court (the complaint must be signed by the majority of the initiators of convening the meeting). The court's decision is final.

The powers vested in accordance with this Code on the recall of a deputy to the chairman of the local Council of Deputies, in the event of raising the issue of his recall, are exercised by his deputy.

Article 132. Competence of a meeting of voters when raising the issue of recalling a deputy and the procedure for holding it

A meeting of voters at the place of residence when raising the issue of recalling a deputy is legal if it is attended by voters living in the district in an amount of at least:

300 voters – when raising the issue of recalling a member of the House of Representatives;

150 voters - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies;

75 voters - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of a district, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies;

20 voters - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of a city (city of regional subordination), township, village Council of Deputies.

A meeting of voters in the labor collective of an organization that is a legal entity numbering at least 300 people, when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the House of Representatives, is valid if more than half of the collective participates in it.

The issue of recalling a member of the House of Representatives may be raised at a general meeting of several smaller labor collectives of organizations that are legal entities with a total workforce of at least 300 people. Moreover, from each such team more than half of its composition must be present.

Meetings of voters in labor collectives to raise the issue of recalling a deputy of the local Council of Deputies may be held in collectives consisting of at least:

150 workers - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies;

75 employees - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of a district, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies;

20 employees - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of a city (city of regional subordination), township, village Council of Deputies.

The meeting is valid if more than half of the team takes part in it.

In the manner prescribed by part four <u>of Article 63</u> of this Code, the issue of recalling a deputy of the House of Representatives or a deputy of the local Council of Deputies may be raised at a conference of the labor collective.

The initiators of convening a meeting, no later than 10 days before the meeting of voters, are obliged to notify in writing the deputy in respect of whom they intend to raise the issue of recall, and also inform the House of Representatives or the local Council of Deputies, from which it is proposed to recall the deputy, about the date and place of the meeting. meeting of voters and the motives that served as the basis for raising the issue of recalling the deputy.

Before the start of the meeting of voters, registration of its participants is carried out, indicating the surname, first name, patronymic (if any), date of birth and place of residence. Each participant in the meeting personally signs the list of voters taking part in the meeting.

At a meeting of voters, a presidium consisting of a chairman, secretary and members and, if necessary, a counting commission are elected, proposals are considered to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy, to collect signatures from district voters in support of this proposal and to form an initiative group to collect signatures in support of the proposal to raising the issue of recalling a deputy and conducting campaigning (hereinafter referred to as the initiative group). An initiative group is formed of at least five people. At the meeting, the leader of the initiative group is elected. The decision of the meeting is made by a majority vote.

The number of meetings of voters held in the district, at which the issue of recalling a deputy can be raised and initiative groups can be formed, is not limited, but they must be held within thirty days from the date of registration of the first initiative group.

Deputies of the House of Representatives, local Councils of Deputies, officials authorized by the chairman of the local Council of Deputies on the territory of which the meeting of voters is being held, or the chairman of the local Council of Deputies from which it is proposed to recall the deputy, as well as representatives of the media have the right to be present at the meeting of voters.

A protocol on the conduct of the meeting of voters is drawn up. The minutes indicate the date and place of its holding, the number of participants in the meeting, the substance of the issues under consideration, the voting results and decisions made, the composition of the formed initiative group, indicating the surname, first name, patronymic (if any) and place of residence of each of its members and the head of the initiative group. groups.

The minutes are signed by the chairman and secretary of the meeting and, with the attached lists of meeting participants and the composition of the initiative group, no later than five days, submitted to:

The Central Commission - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the House of Representatives;

regional, Minsk city election commission - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the regional, Minsk city Council of Deputies;

city (in cities of regional subordination) election commission - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the city Council of Deputies;

district election commission - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of a district, city (in cities of district subordination), township, village Council of Deputies.

Article 133. Guarantees of the rights of a deputy when raising the issue of his recall

The deputy in respect of whom the question of recall is being raised has the right to be present at the meeting of voters or to send persons authorized by him to participate in it. The authority of these persons must be confirmed in writing.

The chairman of the meeting of voters is obliged to provide the deputy with enough time to speak to present explanations on the issue under discussion. The deputy's explanations must be reflected in the minutes of the meeting. On behalf of the deputy, a person authorized by him or her has the right to speak in his place at the meeting. At the end of the discussion of the proposal to initiate the question of recall, the deputy or his authorized person has the right to speak before the start of voting.

The deputy in respect of whom it is proposed to raise the issue of recall, no later than seven days before the appointed date of the meeting of voters, can send to the initiators of holding this meeting, to the chairman of the local Council of Deputies on whose territory the meeting of voters is planned to be held, to the administration of the organization that made the decision to convene the meeting, a written statement justifying a valid reason that makes it impossible for him to participate in the meeting of voters on the appointed day, and propose another day for holding the meeting within the next 15 days after the appointed date. The initiators of convening the meeting, the chairman of the local Council of Deputies, and the administration of the organization must satisfy the request of the deputy and agree with him on another day for holding the meeting. Repeated postponement of the meeting date at the request of a deputy is not permitted.

In the event of a deputy's illness, which must be confirmed by an appropriate document, the meeting of voters, upon a written application from the deputy, is postponed to another date, but no later than 15 days from the date of his recovery. A deputy must send a written notification of his recovery within three days to the initiators of convening a meeting of voters, the chairman of the local Council of Deputies, and the administration of the organization. A meeting of voters can be held regardless of the state of health of the deputy after four months from the date of the scheduled first date of the meeting.

A deputy's refusal to participate in a meeting of voters, as well as his failure to appear at a meeting without a good reason upon timely notification, is not an obstacle to considering a proposal to initiate the issue of his recall.

A meeting of voters may be postponed at the request of its initiators to any other date, if there is a written consent of the deputy. Postponement of the date of a meeting of voters at the request of its initiators is allowed only once. The date of the meeting of voters is postponed in compliance with the requirements of Articles 131 and 132 of this Code.

If the circumstances that served as the basis for initiating the issue of recalling a deputy are the subject of consideration in court, the chairman of the local Council of Deputies, the administration of the organization suspend consideration of the issue of holding a meeting of voters until the court makes a decision (sentence).

Persons who provided knowingly false information that served as the basis for raising the issue of recalling a deputy are liable in accordance with the law.

Article 134. Registration of an initiative group

The initiative group formed at a meeting of voters when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the House of Representatives is registered by the Central Commission, and when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the local Council of Deputies - by the corresponding territorial election commission.

To register an initiative group, the minutes of the meeting of voters, a list of meeting participants, a list of the composition of the initiative group indicating its leader, a copy of the deputy's written notification about the holding of the meeting of voters and a document confirming the sending of the notification to the deputy are submitted to the Central Commission or the relevant territorial election commission.

<u>by Section VIII</u> of this Code was not followed. When deciding on the registration of an initiative group, its representatives, as well as the deputy in respect of whom it is proposed to raise the issue of recall, or a person authorized by him have the right to be present.

Refusal to register an initiative group for the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives may be appealed within three days from the date of the decision on refusal by the head of the initiative group to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus, and for the recall of a deputy of the regional, Minsk city, district, city, township, village Council of Deputies - at the same time, the head of the initiative group, respectively, to the regional, Minsk city, district, city court.

After registration of the initiative group, its representative within three days is given a certificate of registration of the initiative group, identification cards of group members and signature sheets for collecting voter signatures in support of the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy (hereinafter referred to as signature sheets), and is also informed about the minimum number of voter signatures necessary in accordance with the requirements of part one of Article 135 of this Code to support the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy. The forms of the certificate, identification of a member of the initiative group and signature sheets are established by the Central Commission.

The Central Commission reports the registration of the initiative group to the House of Representatives within two days, and the corresponding territorial election commission - to the local Council of Deputies, from which it is proposed to recall the deputy.

Article 135. Collection of signatures of voters in support of the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy

A proposal to raise the issue of recalling a deputy, adopted at a meeting of voters, must be supported by at least 20 percent of citizens who have the right to vote and live in the territory of the relevant district. The number of voters required to support the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy is determined based on the number of voters in the district on election day.

From the date of receipt of the certificate of its registration, the initiative group has the right to collect voter signatures on signature sheets throughout the district. Voter signatures collected before the registration of the initiative group are not taken into account. The initiative group bears the costs of collecting voter signatures.

Signature sheets must contain the wording of the proposal to recall the deputy, indicating the reasons for the recall, the surname, first name, patronymic (if any) of the deputy, date of birth, position of the employee (worker's profession, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city; urban settlement or rural settlement indicating the district), the year of election as a deputy (of the House of Representatives, the corresponding local Council of Deputies), party affiliation, as well as the last name, first name, patronymic of the member of the initiative group collecting signatures, and the number of the certificate of registration of the initiative group. The signature sheet must indicate the last day for collecting signatures.

The deadline for collecting voter signatures in support of the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy is 45 days from the date of receipt of the certificate of registration of the

initiative group. If several initiative groups have been formed and registered in the district, the period for collecting signatures for each of them, regardless of the date of their registration, is limited to 45 days from the date of registration of the first initiative group.

If the required number of signatures has not been collected within 45 days, further collection of voter signatures is terminated.

Article 136. Procedure for collecting voter signatures in support of a proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy

The collection of voter signatures is carried out only by members of the initiative group. The signature sheet must contain the signatures of voters living in the territory of the electoral district in which the question of recalling the deputy has been raised.

The signature sheet for a voter who supports the proposal to initiate the question of recalling a deputy shall indicate the surname, first name and patronymic (if any), date of birth, place of residence, series and number of the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus (number of the identification card of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus) or details of another document determined by the Central Commission. Voter information is entered into the signature sheet in handwriting. The voter personally puts the signature date on the signature sheet and signs. Signatures are numbered.

The signature sheet is certified by the member of the initiative group who collected the signatures. When certifying the signature sheet, a member of the initiative group puts a signature and the date of its entry, and also indicates the surname and initials.

A voter has the right to put his signature only on one signature sheet and only for himself personally.

Article 137. Procedure and deadlines for submitting signature sheets to local Councils of Deputies. Determining the results of collecting voter signatures

Completed signature sheets within the period for collecting signatures provided for in part four <u>of Article 135</u> of this Code, but no later than the next day after the expiration of this period, are submitted to:

to the chairman of the Minsk City Council of Deputies - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the House of Representatives, a deputy of the Minsk City Council of Deputies;

to the chairman of the corresponding regional Council of Deputies - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the House of Representatives, a deputy of the regional Council of Deputies;

to the chairman of the district, city (city of regional and regional subordination), township, village Council of Deputies - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the district, city, township, village Council of Deputies.

The chairman of the relevant local Council of Deputies organizes verification of the authenticity of voters' signatures on signature sheets, in which deputies and other persons invited by the chairman of the local Council of Deputies can participate. The verification is carried out no later than one month after the submission of signature sheets.

Recognition of voters' signatures in support of a proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy is carried out in the manner prescribed by parts nineteen and twenty-one of <u>Article 61</u> of this Code. Voter signatures collected before the registration of the initiative group are also considered invalid. If the signature sheet contains signatures of voters who do not live in the territory of the electoral district, these signatures are not verified and are not taken into account. Voter signatures are also not subject to verification and recording if the signature sheet does not contain the wording of the proposal to recall a deputy and (or) information about the deputy in respect of whom the question of recall has been raised.

If several signatures of the same voter are found in support of a proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy, only one signature is considered reliable, and the remaining signatures are considered unreliable.

After checking the signature sheets, the chairman of the relevant local Council of Deputies, specified in part one of this article, who accepted the signature sheets from the initiative group, draws up a protocol on the results of collecting signatures, which indicates the total number of signatures in the signature sheets accepted from the initiative group, the number of signatures, the authenticity of which was verified, the number of signatures found to be reliable, and the number of signatures found to be unreliable. The protocol is signed by the chairman of the local Council of Deputies.

If the collection of signatures was carried out by several initiative groups, a protocol on the results of collecting signatures is drawn up separately for each initiative group, and then a final protocol is drawn up, which is signed by the chairman of the local Council of Deputies.

The protocol on the results of collecting signatures is transmitted no later than three days to:

The Central Commission - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the House of Representatives;

regional, Minsk city election commission - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the regional, Minsk city Council of Deputies;

city (in cities of regional subordination) election commission - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of the city Council of Deputies;

district election commission - when raising the issue of recalling a deputy of a district, city (in cities of district subordination), township, village Council of Deputies.

CHAPTER 27

PROCEDURE FOR CALLING A VOTING ON THE RECALL OF A DEPUTY. VOTING AND SUMMARY OF ITS RESULTS

Article 138. Making a decision to call a vote to recall a deputy

The Central Commission, the corresponding territorial election commission, within 15 days from the date of receipt of the necessary documents (protocols, signature sheets), has the right to conduct a selective or full verification of compliance with the requirements of <u>Section VIII</u> of this Code when raising the issue of recalling a deputy.

If it is established that the collection of the required number of voter signatures and other activities have been carried out in accordance with the requirements of <u>Section VIII</u> of this Code, the Central Commission makes a decision on scheduling a vote on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, and the relevant territorial election commission - on scheduling a vote on the recall of a deputy of the local Council of Deputies .

Voting is scheduled no earlier than one month and no later than two months from the date of the decision to schedule voting.

If, when initiating the issue of recalling a deputy and collecting voter signatures, there were significant violations of the requirements of <u>Section VIII</u> of this Code or the required number of voter signatures were not collected in support of the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy, a decision is made to refuse to schedule a vote on recalling the deputy.

The decision of the Central Commission to refuse to call a vote on the recall of a deputy within three days from the date of the decision can be appealed by the head of the initiative group to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus, and the decision of the regional, Minsk city, district, city election commission within the same period - by the head of the initiative group respectively to the regional, Minsk city, district, city court.

The decision of the Central Commission on calling a vote on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives is sent to the House of Representatives and transmitted for promulgation (publication) in the media, posted on the official website of the Central Commission on the global computer network Internet, and the decision of the relevant territorial election commission on calling a vote on recall of a deputy of the local Council of Deputies is published in local print media, posted on the official website of the relevant local executive and administrative body on the global computer network Internet, or otherwise brought to the attention of voters.

The decision of the Central Commission or the corresponding territorial election commission to call a vote to recall a deputy is canceled if the powers of the deputy are terminated early on the grounds established by law.

Article 139. Ballot for voting on the recall of a deputy

The ballot for the recall of a deputy must contain the name and number of the district from which the deputy was elected, the wording of the proposal to recall the deputy indicating the reasons for the recall, surname, first name, patronymic (if any) of the deputy, date of birth, position of the employee (profession of worker, occupation), place of work and place of residence (city; urban settlement or rural settlement indicating the district), year of election as a deputy (House of Representatives, corresponding local Council of Deputies), party affiliation and answer options - "for recall" and "against recall", under which empty squares are placed.

The text of the ballot is approved by the relevant territorial commission.

Ballots for voting on the recall of a deputy are printed in Belarusian or Russian.

The voting ballot must contain an explanation of the procedure for filling it out.

The back side of the voting ballot is signed by at least two persons who are members of the precinct commission.

Article 140. Deputy's proxies

When resolving issues related to his recall, after a decision is made to call a recall vote, a deputy may have proxies representing his interests in relations with voters, initiative groups, government bodies, and commissions for holding a vote on the recall of a deputy. Registration of proxies and their activities are carried out in relation to the procedure provided for by this Code during elections of deputies.

Article 141. The procedure for holding a vote on recalling a deputy and summing up its results

Voting on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives, a deputy of the local Council of Deputies is secret and is carried out in the manner prescribed by <u>Articles 50, 51, 52</u> and <u>54</u> of this Code.

The voting is considered to have taken place if more than half of the voters included in the lists of citizens entitled to participate in the vote to recall a deputy took part in it. A deputy is considered recalled if more than half of the voters in the district who took part in the voting voted for his recall.

The recall of a deputy is considered rejected if less than half of the voters of the district who took part in the voting voted for the recall, as well as if less than half of the voters included in the lists of citizens entitled to participate in the vote on the recall of the deputy took part in the voting. In case of equality of votes cast for and against the recall of a deputy, the deputy retains his powers.

Based on the protocols received from precinct commissions and drawn up in accordance with the requirements of <u>Article 55</u> of this Code, the voting results are established at a meeting of the territorial election commission and entered into the protocol.

The protocol of the regional, Minsk city election commission after establishing the results of the vote on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives is sent to the Central Commission.

The Central Commission, the corresponding territorial election commission, after five days from voting day, if more than half of the voters who took part in the voting voted for the recall of the deputy and there are no grounds for considering the issue of recognizing the voting results as invalid, makes a decision to recognize the deputy as recalled by voters.

If the voters of the district did not vote for the recall of the deputy, the decision of the Central Commission of the corresponding territorial election commission indicates that the proposal to recall the deputy was rejected by the voters. Materials about this are respectively transmitted to the House of Representatives and the local Council of Deputies.

The Central Commission, the territorial election commission may recognize the results of the vote to recall a deputy as invalid if during the voting, or during the counting of votes, or when determining the voting results, violations of the requirements of this Code were committed that affected the voting results. A complaint about such a violation is submitted by a deputy or the head of the initiative group, respectively, to the Central Commission or the territorial election commission no later than on the third day after voting.

The decision of the Central Commission, territorial election commission to recognize the voting results as invalid within three days from the date of the decision can be appealed by a deputy, the head of the initiative group, respectively, to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus, regional, Minsk city, district, city court.

If errors, inconsistencies are identified in the protocols of precinct, territorial election commissions, as well as other violations committed during voting or during the counting of votes, the Central Commission, a higher territorial election commission, on its own initiative or at the request of a deputy, has the right to decide to recount the votes of the corresponding territorial election commission. A deputy's application for a recount of votes is submitted accordingly to the Central Commission or a higher territorial election commission no later than the third day after the vote to recall the deputy. The recount of votes is carried out by the territorial election commission in the presence of a member (members) of the Central Commission, a higher territorial election commission, and, if necessary, precinct commissions.

The decision of the Central Commission based on the voting results on the recall of a deputy of the House of Representatives within three days from the date of adoption may be appealed by the deputy, the head of the initiative group, to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus.

The decision of the territorial election commission based on the voting results on the recall of a deputy of the regional, Minsk city, district, city, township, rural Council of Deputies in the same manner and within the same period can be appealed, respectively, to the regional, Minsk city, district, city court.

Article 142. Inadmissibility of re-initiating the issue of recalling a deputy within a year Re-initiation of the issue of recalling a deputy on the same grounds within a year from the date of voting on recalling a deputy is not allowed.

SECTION IX PROCEDURE FOR RECALL OF A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

CHAPTER 28 GROUNDS AND PROCEDURE FOR INITIATING THE RECALL OF A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 143. Grounds and procedure for recalling a member of the Council of the Republic

A member of the Council of the Republic who has not justified the trust placed in him, expressed in failure to fulfill the legally prescribed duties of a member of the Council of the Republic, violation of the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, decisions of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, laws, acts of the President of the Republic of Belarus, committing actions that discredit a member of the Council of the Republic, may be recalled for except for the case provided for in part two of this article.

A member of the Council of the Republic who exercises his powers for life cannot be recalled.

The recall of a member of the Council of the Republic elected from the region or the city of Minsk is carried out in the manner established by <u>Section IX</u> of this Code.

The procedure for recalling a member of the Council of the Republic appointed by the President of the Republic of Belarus is established by the President of the Republic of Belarus.

The issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic cannot be raised less than one year before the expiration of his term of office.

Article 144. Initiation of the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic

The following may initiate the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic elected from the region or the city of Minsk:

the presidium of the district, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies and the district, city executive committee, which nominated a candidate for membership in the Council of the Republic, before the presidium of the regional Council of Deputies and the regional executive committee;

at least 10 deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies - before the presidium of the Minsk City Council of Deputies and the Minsk City Executive Committee.

The initiators of raising the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic set out the motives that served as the basis for considering this issue.

The initiation of the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic elected from the region is carried out at a joint meeting of the presidium of the district, city (city of regional subordination) Council of Deputies and the district, city executive committee. A joint meeting of the presidium of the district, city Council of Deputies and the corresponding executive committee is considered competent if at least two-thirds of the members of the presidium and the executive committee, respectively, take part in it.

The decision of a joint meeting of the presidium of the district, city Council of Deputies and the corresponding executive committee is made by a simple majority of votes from their composition.

An application by deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies to initiate the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic must be signed by all its initiators.

Materials on initiating the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic are sent: on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic elected from the region - to the presidium of the regional Council of Deputies and the regional executive committee; upon the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic elected from the city of Minsk - to the presidium of the Minsk City Council of Deputies and the Minsk City Executive Committee.

Article 145. The procedure for considering the initiative to initiate the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic by the presidium of the regional, Minsk city Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk city executive committee

The Presidium of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk City Executive Committee are obliged to notify a member of the Council of the Republic within five days about the initiation of the issue of recall in relation to him, indicating the reasons and the

date of consideration of this issue at their meeting. A member of the Council of the Republic is notified in writing of the date, time and place of consideration no later than 15 days before the meeting.

If a member of the Council of the Republic, in respect of whom the issue of recall is initiated, for good reason cannot take part in the meeting on the appointed day, he must, no later than seven days before the appointed date of the meeting, send a written statement to the initiators of the meeting justifying the reason and propose another day for holding meeting within 15 days following the appointed date. The initiators of the meeting must satisfy the request of a member of the Council of the Republic and agree with him on another day for the meeting. Repeated postponement of the date of a meeting at the request of a member of the Council of the Republic is not permitted.

The refusal of a member of the Council of the Republic to participate in a meeting, as well as his failure to appear at a meeting without a valid reason upon timely notification, is not an obstacle to consideration of a proposal to initiate the issue of his recall.

A member of the Council of the Republic has the right to send a person (persons) authorized by him to participate in the meeting. The authority of this person(s) must be confirmed in writing.

At a meeting, respectively, of the presidium of the regional, Minsk city Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk city executive committee, a member of the Council of the Republic is given time sufficient to present explanations on the substance of the initiative under consideration to initiate the issue of his recall. Explanations of a member of the Council of the Republic must be reflected in the minutes of the meeting. On behalf of a member of the Council of the Republic, a person authorized by him may speak in his place at a meeting.

A joint meeting of the presidium of the regional, Minsk city Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk city executive committee is considered competent if at least two-thirds of the presidium and the executive committee, respectively, took part in it. The decision of the joint meeting, containing the opinion of these bodies on the initiative to initiate the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic, is adopted by a majority vote of their members.

The minutes of the meeting with all available materials are sent to the Central Commission for a conclusion on compliance with the requirements of Section IX of this Code when initiating the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic.

Article 146. Verification by the Central Commission of compliance with the requirements of this Code when initiating the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic

The Central Commission, within ten days after receiving the minutes of the meeting of the presidium of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk City Executive Committee, verifies compliance with the requirements of Section IX of this Code when initiating the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic, considers this issue at its meeting, approves the conclusion and immediately sends it to the presidium of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk City Executive Committee.

Article 147. Initiation of the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic

The Presidium of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk City Executive Committee, within five days after receiving the conclusion of the Central Commission, determine the date of their meeting to consider the proposal to initiate the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic. A member of the Council of the Republic, who has the right to attend this meeting or send an authorized person (persons) to participate in it, is notified in writing of the date, time and place of the meeting no later than 15 days before the meeting.

If measures to initiate the initiation of the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic are carried out in accordance with the requirements of Section IX of this Code and there are grounds for initiating the issue of his recall, the presidium of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk City Executive Committee make a decision to initiate the issue of the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic elected from the region, the city of Minsk, and the appointment of a voting day for his recall.

If the circumstances that served as the basis for initiating the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic are the subject of consideration in court, the bodies specified in part two of this article suspend further consideration of the issue until the court makes a decision (sentence).

Article 148. Procedure for calling a vote on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic

Voting on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic elected from the region or the city of Minsk is scheduled no earlier than one month and no later than two months from the date of the decision to call the vote.

In the event of illness of a member of the Council of the Republic, which must be confirmed by an appropriate document, voting on his written application is postponed to another date, but no later than 15 days from the date of his recovery. A member of the Council of the Republic must send a written notification within three days of his recovery to the presidium of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk City Executive Committee. Voting may be held regardless of the health status of a member of the Council of the Republic after four months from the onset of his illness.

The decision of the presidium of the regional, Minsk city Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk city executive committee on calling a vote on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic is sent to the Council of the Republic and submitted for promulgation (publication) to the media.

If, when initiating the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic, there were significant violations of the requirements of Section IX of this Code, a decision is made to refuse to call a vote on recalling a member of the Council of the Republic. This decision can be appealed to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus within three days by the initiators of initiating the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic.

Article 149. Campaigning for or against the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic

After calling a vote on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic elected from the region, the city of Minsk, deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies have the right to freely and comprehensively discuss issues related to the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic, his business and personal qualities, campaign for or against the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic.

The media specified in part one <u>of Article 46</u> of this Code are obliged to provide equal opportunities for deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies, as well as a member of the Council of the Republic against whom the lawsuit was initiated to speak for or against the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic. review question.

CHAPTER 29

PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING THE MEETING OF DEPUTIES OF LOCAL COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES OF THE BASIC LEVEL OF THE REGION, DEPUTIES OF THE MINSK CITY COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES ON THE ISSUE OF REVOKING A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 150. Conducting a meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies on the issue of recalling a member of the Council of the Republic

The day of the meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies (hereinafter referred to as the meeting of deputies) is announced no later than five days from the date of adoption by the presidium of the regional, Minsk City Council of Deputies and the regional, Minsk City Executive Committee of the decision to call a vote on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic elected from the region, the city of Minsk.

A meeting of deputies is considered competent if more than half of the total number of deputies elected to local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies, takes part in it. At the same time, at least one quarter of the deputies from each local Council of Deputies of the basic level of the region must take part in the meeting of deputies.

The meeting of deputies is opened by the chairman of the regional, Minsk city Council of Deputies and leads it until the chairman of the meeting is elected.

To ensure the work of the meeting of deputies, a secretariat and a counting commission are elected.

A meeting of deputies is held with the participation of a member of the Council of the Republic, in respect of whom the issue of recall is being considered, or a person (persons) authorized by him.

The refusal of a member of the Council of the Republic to participate in a meeting of deputies or his failure to appear at a meeting without a good reason is not an obstacle to considering the issue of his recall.

The grounds and motives for voting on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic are reported to the deputies at a meeting by a person authorized by the bodies that made the decision to call the vote.

The chairman of the meeting is obliged to give the member of the Council of the Republic time to speak, sufficient to present explanations.

On behalf of a member of the Council of the Republic, a person authorized by him has the right to speak at a meeting of deputies. At the end of the discussion of the issue of recall, a member of the Council of the Republic or a person authorized by him has the right to speak before the start of voting.

Members of the Council of the Republic, members of the Central Commission, deputies of local Councils of Deputies of all territorial levels, and representatives of the media have the right to attend a meeting of deputies.

Article 151. Organization of voting on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic

The recall of a member of the Council of the Republic is carried out by secret ballot. To organize voting and determine its results at a meeting of deputies, a counting commission is elected from among the deputies.

The Counting Commission elects a chairman, deputy chairman and secretary of the commission from among its members. The decisions of the counting commission are made by a majority vote of its members.

Ballot papers are prepared by the counting commission in the form established by the Central Commission in the quantity corresponding to the number of participants in the meeting.

The time and place of voting, the procedure for its conduct are established by the counting commission and announced by its chairman.

Each deputy taking part in the work of the meeting of deputies is issued one voting ballot. Ballots are issued by the counting commission according to the list of deputies taking part in the work of the meeting of deputies, upon presentation of a deputy's ID.

Based on the voting results, the counting commission draws up a protocol, which is signed by the entire composition of the counting commission.

Based on the report of the counting commission, a meeting of deputies by open vote makes a decision to approve the voting results.

The recall of a member of the Council of the Republic is considered to have taken place if more than half of the total number of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies took part in the voting, and more than half of the deputies who took part in the voting voted for the recall. In case of equality of votes cast for and against the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic, he retains his powers.

The first copies of the decision of the meeting of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies on approval of the voting results on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic, the protocol of the counting commission, together with the list of deputies who took part in the meeting, are transferred to the Central Central Committee within two days after the meeting of deputies commission.

Article 152. Consideration by the Central Commission of the results of voting on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic

The Central Commission, within ten days from the day of voting on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic, if more than half of the number of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, deputies of the Minsk City Council of Deputies who took part in the vote voted for the recall, and there are no grounds for considering the issue of recognition the voting results are invalid, makes a decision to recognize a member of the Council of the Republic as recalled and sends it to the Council of the Republic.

The decision of the Central Commission, within three days from the date of adoption of the decision, can be appealed by a member of the Council of the Republic, recognized as recalled, to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus.

SECTION X FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 153. Entry into force of this Code

This Code comes into force one month after its <u>publication</u>.

Article 154. Bringing legislative acts into compliance with this Code

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus, within three months from the date of entry into force of this Code:

prepare and submit, in the prescribed manner, to the House of Representatives proposals to bring the legislative acts of the Republic of Belarus into compliance with this Code;

bring decisions of the Government of the Republic of Belarus into conformity with this Code; ensure the review and repeal by republican government bodies subordinate to the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of their regulations that contradict this Code.

Article 155. Basic terms used in this Code

The following basic terms are used in this Code:

propaganda materials - printed, audio, audiovisual and other materials containing signs of election campaigning, campaigning for a referendum, recall of a deputy and intended for mass distribution, publication during elections, referendum, recall of a deputy;

election campaigning (pre-election campaigning) - activities carried out during the election campaign and aimed at inducing or inducing voters to vote or not to vote for a candidate, candidates or to vote against all candidates;

referendum campaigning - activities carried out during the referendum campaign, aimed at inducing or encouraging citizens to support a proposal to hold a referendum, to accept a question put to a referendum, or to refuse to support a proposal to hold a referendum, to accept a question put to a referendum;

elections – elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, delegates of the All-Belarusian People's Assembly, deputies of the House of Representatives, members of the Council of the Republic, deputies of local Councils of Deputies, conducted on the basis of the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus and this Code;

deputy - a person elected by voters of the relevant electoral district to the House of Representatives or local Council of Deputies on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot;

voter is a citizen of the Republic of Belarus who, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus and this Code, has the right to elect to state bodies and to public positions; election campaign - activities related to the preparation and conduct of elections, carried out during the period from the day of official publication of the decision of the President of the Republic of Belarus or a state body authorized by the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, this Code to call elections until the day of publication of the election results;

referendum campaign - activities for the preparation and conduct of a referendum, carried out during the period from the date of registration of the initiative group for holding a referendum or from the date of the decision to call a referendum until the day the commission organizing the preparation and conduct of the referendum publishes the results of the referendum or until the day the decision is made to reject referendum;

commissions – commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions, commissions for voting on the recall of a deputy;

electoral district - the territory from which the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies of the House of Representatives, deputies of local Councils of Deputies are directly elected by citizens of the Republic of Belarus;

candidate - a person registered by the relevant commission as a candidate for the position of President of the Republic of Belarus, a candidate for deputy of the House of Representatives, a candidate for member of the Council of the Republic, a candidate for deputy of the local Council of Deputies. A person nominated in the manner prescribed by this Code as a candidate for delegate to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly is also recognized as a candidate;

observer - a representative of a political party, other public association, labor collective, citizens, monitoring the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, recall of a deputy in accordance with the procedure established by this Code;

foreign (international) observer - a person representing a foreign state or international organization who acquires the right to monitor the preparation and conduct of elections, referendums, and recall of a deputy in accordance with the procedure established by this Code;

referendum participant – a citizen of the Republic of Belarus who has the right to vote and takes part in the referendum;

location of a citizen - the place of actual location of the citizen at his place of residence or place of stay, which is located within the boundaries of the voting precinct where he is registered;

informing voters, referendum participants - activities related to the preparation and dissemination of information on the progress of the election campaign, referendum campaign, voting on the recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic, on the formation and activities of commissions, on electoral districts, polling stations, on the procedure for forming and changing the list voters, referendum participants, the procedure for participating in voting, the voting procedure, the results of voting, elections, referendum, recall, as well as information about the candidate (candidates), his (their) program, the issue submitted to the referendum, which does not contain signs of election campaigning, campaigning by referendum;

information materials - printed, audio, audiovisual and other materials of commissions, local representative, executive and administrative bodies, the media, containing information about the progress of the election campaign, referendum campaign, voting on the recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic; official information from commissions and the media about the candidate (candidates) and his (their) program, the issue submitted for a referendum, which does not create preferences for any candidate and does not contain signs of pre-election campaigning, referendum campaigning;

television debates - statements by two or more candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies of the House of Representatives on a wide range of socially significant issues, including messages regarding the election programs of other candidates, made on television during a public exchange of opinions and questions;

a representative of a mass media is a journalist of a mass media or a person who has a document certifying his authority as a representative of a legal entity entrusted with the functions of the editorial office of a mass media, as well as a journalist of a foreign mass media with a document confirming the accreditation of a journalist of a foreign mass media in Republic of Belarus;

voluntary donation by a citizen - a gratuitous contribution by a citizen of the Republic of Belarus of his own funds to the special election account of a person nominated as a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, a candidate for President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, to a special account of the initiative group for holding a referendum or to an extra-budgetary fund, created by the Central Commission;

voluntary donation by a legal entity - a gratuitous transfer by a legal entity of funds from its current account to the special election account of a person nominated as a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, a candidate for the President of the Republic of Belarus, for deputies, to a special account of the initiative group for holding a referendum or extra-budgetary fund created by the Central Commission.

Article 155 ¹. The procedure for storing documents on elections, referendums, recall of a deputy, member of the Council of the Republic

The procedure for storing and transferring documents of the Central Commission to the archive is carried out in accordance with the legislation in the field of archival affairs and office work.

Documents of commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, election commissions, referendum commissions, for holding a vote on the recall of a deputy after the completion of the elections, referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy are stored in the manner prescribed by parts three to eight of this article.

Minutes of meetings and documents thereto:

regional and Minsk city commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, regional and Minsk city election commissions, district election commissions, regional and Minsk city referendum commissions are stored in the regional, Minsk city executive committees for 10 years, and then transferred as part of the funds of these bodies for storage in state archives;

district, city (in cities of regional subordination), district in cities commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus are stored in the corresponding district, city executive committees, local administrations for 5 years, and then, as part of the funds of these bodies, are transferred for storage to state archives;

district, city, town, village election commissions, district, city, town, village, district referendum commissions are stored in the relevant district, city, town, village executive committees, local administrations for 5 years, and then as part of the funds of these bodies are transferred for storage to state archives;

precinct commissions for the election of the President of the Republic of Belarus, precinct election commissions, precinct commissions for a referendum, for voting on the recall of a deputy are stored in the bodies that formed the commissions for 5 years, and then, as part of the funds of these bodies, are transferred for storage to the state archives.

Signature sheets for collecting citizen signatures in support of:

nominations of candidates for the President of the Republic of Belarus are stored in the relevant district, city executive committees, local administrations;

persons proposed for nomination as candidates for deputies are stored in the bodies that formed the relevant district and territorial election commissions;

proposals to hold a republican, local referendum are stored in the relevant district, city executive committees, local administrations;

proposals to initiate the issue of recalling a deputy are stored in the regional, Minsk city, district, city, settlement, and rural executive committees.

Bulletins:

for elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus, deputies are stored in the relevant district, city, village, rural executive committees, local administrations;

on elections of members of the Council of the Republic, voting on the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic are stored in the relevant regional, Minsk city executive committees;

for voting on a referendum and for voting on the recall of a deputy are stored in the relevant district, city, town, village executive committees and local administrations.

The storage period for signature sheets for collecting signatures, as well as ballots for elections, for voting on a referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy is six months after election day, the day of voting on a referendum, voting on the recall of a deputy.

Financial reports on receipt and expenditure of funds:

election funds of persons nominated as candidates for President of the Republic of Belarus, candidates for President of the Republic of Belarus, funds of the initiative group for holding a republican referendum are stored in the Central Commission for 5 years;

election funds of persons nominated as candidates for deputies, candidates for deputies are stored in the relevant regional, Minsk city, district, city, settlement, rural executive committees for 5 years;

funds of the initiative group for holding a local referendum are stored in the relevant local executive and administrative bodies for one year.

Lists of citizens entitled to participate in elections, referendums, voting on the recall of a deputy, precinct commissions are transferred to the executive and administrative bodies that formed the corresponding precinct commissions, where they are stored until new elections or referendums are held.

Minutes of meetings and joint decisions of the presidiums of local Councils of Deputies and the relevant executive committees, decisions of meetings of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the basic level of the region, the Minsk City Council of Deputies on the elections of members of the Council of the Republic, the recall of a member of the Council of the Republic, as well as documents thereto are stored in the relevant regional, Minsk city executive committees for 10 years, in district and city executive committees - for 5 years, and then, as part of the funds of these bodies, they are transferred for storage to state archives.

Minutes of meetings and decisions of regional Councils of Deputies on the conduct of elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from local Councils of Deputies, as well as documents thereto, are stored in the relevant regional Councils of Deputies for 10 years, and then, as part of the funds of these bodies, are transferred for storage to state archives.

Minutes of meetings and decisions of the highest bodies of civil society entities on the conduct of elections of delegates to the All-Belarusian People's Assembly from civil society, as well as documents to them, are stored in the relevant organizations that conducted the elections of such delegates.

The documents specified in parts four, five, seven and eight of this article, upon expiration of the storage period, are subject to destruction in accordance with the legislation in the field of archival affairs and office work.

Article 156. Revocation of certain legislative acts

In connection with the entry into force of this Code, the following shall be declared invalid: Law of the Republic of Belarus of November 20, 1959 "On the procedure for recalling a deputy of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus" (SZ BSSR, 1959, No. 16, Art. 251);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of July 28, 1960 "On the procedure for recalling a deputy of the regional, district, city, town, village Council of Workers' Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" (SZ BSSR, 1960, No. 20, Art. 150);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of December 12, 1978 "On elections to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus" (SZ BSSR, 1978, No. 35, Art. 676);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of June 21, 1979 "On introducing amendments and additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On the procedure for recalling a deputy of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus" (SZ BSSR, 1979, No. 18, Art. 304);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of December 14, 1979 "On introducing amendments and additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On the procedure for recalling a deputy of the regional, district, city, town, village Council of Workers' Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" (SZ BSSR, 1979, No. 35, art. 615);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of October 27, 1989 "On the election of deputies of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus" (SZ BSSR, 1989, No. 31, Art. 316; Vedamastsi Vyarkhonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1995, No. 1-2, Art. 3);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of June 20, 1990 "On Amendments to Article 47 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Elections of People's Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" and Article 45 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Elections of People's Deputies of Local Councils of People's Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" (NW BSSR, 1990, No. 18, Art. 266);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of December 21, 1990 "On Amendments to Article 57 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Elections of People's Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" and Article 54 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Elections of People's Deputies of Local Councils of People's Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarhoinaga Saveta Belarusian SSR, 1991, No. 1, Art. 9);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of June 13, 1991 "On popular vote (referendum) in the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarhounaga Saveta Belarusian SSR, 1991, No. 25, Art. 364);

Resolution of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus dated June 13, 1991 "On the implementation of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On the People's Vote (Referendum) in the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarhounaga Saveta Belarusian SSR, 1991, No. 25, Art. 365);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of December 8, 1992 "On Amendments and Additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Elections of People's Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" and the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Elections of People's Deputies of Local Councils of People's Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarhoinaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1992 g., No. 34, Art. 540);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of March 29, 1994 "On the elections of the President of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarkhonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1994, No. 10, Art. 146);

Resolution of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus of March 29, 1994 "On the implementation of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On the Election of the President of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamasti Vyarkhoonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1994, No. 10, Art. 147);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of November 29, 1994 "On Amendments and Additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Elections of People's Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarkhoonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1995, No. 1-2, Art. 1);

Resolution of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus dated November 29, 1994 "On the entry into force of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On introducing amendments and additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On the elections of people's deputies of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarkhoonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1995, No. 1- 2, art. 2);

Resolution of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus dated January 31, 1995 "On the application of the last part of Article 34 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On elections of deputies of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamasti Vyarkhoonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1995, No. 13, Art. 133);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of March 22, 1995 "On Amendments to the Law of the Republic of Belarus" On Elections of Deputies of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarkhoonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1995, No. 18, Art. 198);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of September 7, 1995 "On Amendments and Additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Elections of Deputies of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarkhoonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1995, No. 29, Art. 367);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of September 24, 1996 "On Amendments and Additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Elections of Deputies of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarkhoonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1996, No. 32, Art. 583);

Resolution of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus dated November 14, 1996 "On the interpretation of certain articles of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On popular voting (referendum) in the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamastsi Vyarkhoonaga Saveta Respubliki Belarus, 1996, No. 34, Art. 622);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of December 23, 1998 "On elections of deputies of local Councils of Deputies of the Republic of Belarus" (Vedamasti Natsyyanalnaga skhud Respubliki Belarus, 1999, No. 2, Art. 33);

Law of the Republic of Belarus of July 9, 1999 "On amendments and additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On popular voting (referendum) in the Republic of Belarus" (National Register of Legal Acts of the Republic of Belarus, 1999, No. 56, 2/63).

President of the Republic of Belarus

A. Lukashenko