

Handling Violations of Election Administration in 2024 in the Perspective of the Principle of the Rule of Law in Lampung Province

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Abstract

The implementation of the 2024 Election in Lampung Province is still faced with various administrative violations, such as the inaccuracy of the Permanent Voter List (DPT), the use of voting rights not according to domicile, and indications of vote manipulation. This condition has the potential to hurt the principle of the rule of law, reduce the legitimacy of elections, and weaken public trust in election organizers. This study aims to identify forms of violations of the administration of the 2024 Election in Lampung Province, analyze the mechanism for handling them by the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu), and assess the implementation of the principle of the rule of law in the process. This study uses a qualitative method with a normative-empirical approach. The data was obtained through interviews with the KPU and the Metro City Bawaslu as well as a documentation study of Law Number 7 of 2017, PKPU Number 15 of 2024, Perbawaslu Number 9 of 2024, and election supervision reports. The results of the study show that administrative violations still have a significant impact on the legitimacy of elections due to the weak accuracy of voter data, limited human resources, and suboptimal institutional coordination. This study recommends strengthening the capacity of Bawaslu, increasing the transparency and accountability of the KPU, consistent law enforcement, and optimizing information technology in election supervision.

Keywords: 2024 Elections, Administrative Violations, Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu), General Election Commission (KPU), Lampung.



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INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a state of law as affirmed in Article 1 paragraph (3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia in 1945, which states that "The State of Indonesia is a state of law". The concept of the state of law contains the principle that all actions of state administrators must be based on the law, and ensure the protection of human rights, equality before the law, and justice. The state of law is not only about the presence of the law, but also about the rule of law that binds all elements of government and society. This concept is in line with the view (Rumiarta, 2019) which emphasizes the rule of law (*Supremacy of Law*), principles of legality (*due process of law*), and equality before the law (*equality before the law*) as the main principle in a state of law. Therefore, in the practice of Indonesian constitutionality, all state administration, including the mechanism of taking political power, must be subject to the applicable legal principles (Muhlashin, 2021).

In a state of law that also adheres to a democratic system that places people's sovereignty as the main foundation in the constitutional system. This is affirmed in Article 1 paragraph (2) of the 1945 Constitution, that "Sovereignty is in the hands of the people and is carried out

according to the Constitution". Democracy is not just a political system, but democracy gives legitimacy to the law, while the law provides limits so that democracy does not turn into arbitrary power (Zakaria, 2019). The real implementation of the principles of democracy and the rule of law in Indonesia is realized through the implementation of General Elections (Elections). The implementation of honest, fair, and transparent elections is the main prerequisite for producing legitimate leaders and effective governance (Sugiharto & Riyanti, 2020) and ensuring the legitimacy of the elected government (Lestari, S., & Risnain, 2020).

Based on the framework of the state of law, the implementation of General Elections in Indonesia is guaranteed by a comprehensive set of laws and regulations. Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections is the main foundation that regulates all aspects of the implementation of elections, including the definition and mechanism for resolving administrative violations (Aspan & Suwandi, 2022). With a strong constitutional and legislative foundation in ensuring the implementation of democratic elections and integrity, in addition to the Election Law, Indonesia has also drafted its derivative regulations to provide a comprehensive framework that governs each stage of the election and handles the potential for administrative violations (Prawira, 2019). The derivative regulations are KPU Regulation Number 15 of 2024 and Bawaslu Regulation Number 9 of 2024. Thus, Indonesia's legal system provides a solid framework to ensure elections that are in accordance with democratic principles and clear mechanisms for handling administrative violations.

The legal phenomenon that often occurs in the 2024 election shows that administrative violations are still a problem in the regions, including the province of Lampung. Every election is held with the potential for violations cannot be determined from (Lefteuw & Pattiasina, 2022). Violations of election administration can appear at various stages such as voter registration, candidacy, supervision, and vote counting, which are sensitive and vulnerable to being used for certain political interests (Supriyadi & Anandy, 2020)(Supriyadi, 2020). This phenomenon worsens the stability, fairness, and credibility of the electoral process. Election administrative violations included in this category are inconsistencies in the process of stages such as registration, preparation of the Permanent Candidate List (DCT), logistics distribution, and vote counting are among the most common, although often forgotten, electoral disputes. Its handling requires measurable and professional procedures so as not to cause legal losses, injustice, and reduce public trust (Prabowo, 2024). This condition places the handling of administrative violations as a crucial legal issue, because it is directly related to the effectiveness of the application of the principle of the rule of law in maintaining the integrity, legal certainty, and legitimacy of election results.

Election violations are a crucial problem that occurs not only at the local level, but also nationally. The Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) recorded various forms of violations that occurred in the field during elections, including administrative violations, election crimes, ethical violations by organizers, to technical problems such as logistics distribution and voter data. These violations include money politics, off-schedule campaigns, vote manipulation, fictitious voters, and the non-neutrality of the state civil apparatus (ASN). Data from the Bawaslu RI until February 2024 nationally shows more than 1,200 reports of violations consisting of administrative, ethical, and criminal violations of elections. These findings show

that the issue of electoral integrity is still a serious challenge in realizing a healthy democracy in Indonesia (Fajrianto & Andriyansyah, 2024).

The practice of holding the 2024 election is such as Lampung Province, which also handles administrative violations that show factual problems so that it reflects the weak principle of the rule of law. The form of administrative violations that occurred in Lampung Province such as fictitious voters still on the voter list showed significant inconsistencies in the process of updating voter data, which should be done carefully, clearly and in accordance with standards. One of the concrete evidence of administrative violations in Lampung Province can be seen in the 2019 case, where the East Lampung Regency KPU was proven to have committed administrative violations in the process of determining the Permanent Candidate List (DCT) of legislative members. Based on the Decision of the Honorary Council of Election Organizers (DKPP) Number 140-PKE-DKPP/VI/2019, the East Lampung Regency KPU was found guilty of passing a legislative candidate from the Gerindra Party, Agus S.Kom, into the DCT even though the person concerned did not meet the administrative requirements in the form of complete diploma documents that should have been attached (DKPP Decision Number 140-PKE-DKPP/VI/2019, East Lampung Regency KPU, 2019). The decision document stated that the candidate in question came from Dapil 4 of East Lampung Regency. This shows that administrative violations at the candidate level and the determination of real candidates occurred in one of the constituencies in Lampung. Administrative violations are not just technical errors, but part of the weakness of the system, especially in verifying candidate requirements and updating data, supported by concrete evidence of the case in East Lampung; And this reinforces the urgency of systemic reform and tighter oversight.

Normatively, Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections gives the authority to the General Election Supervisory Agency to receive, examine, review, and decide on violations of election administration as part of the election law enforcement system in Indonesia (Scott, 2019). However, the practice of handling administrative violations in the 2024 Election in Lampung Province shows various fundamental problems, especially related to the inconsistency of the General Election Supervisory Agency in implementing a mechanism for handling administrative violations. This can be seen from the difference in treatment of reports of administrative violations, both in terms of the stages of examination, the duration of handling, and the form of sanctions imposed, thus causing a perception of injustice and weakening the legitimacy of election law enforcement at the regional level (Ihsan, 2019). In addition, differences in interpretation of election regulations between election organizers in the regions also cause legal uncertainty for election participants, especially regarding handling procedures, evidentiary standards, and legal consequences for alleged administrative violations, which ultimately contradict the principle of legal certainty in the state of law (Novarizal, 2024). Another problem that is no less important is the weak evidence in handling election administration violations which has an impact on the imposition of disproportionate sanctions, where certain violations that should be subject to strict sanctions actually end up with light sanctions, while other administrative violations are subject to severe sanctions without a strong evidentiary basis, thus contradicting the principles of substantive justice and the principle of proportionality (Khairullaili, 2023). This condition reflects the gap between the legal norms of

elections written in laws and regulations and the practice of their implementation in the field, as well as the concept of the difference between law in regulations and laws in practice put forward by Lawrence Meir Friedman, which ultimately has the potential to harm the principles of the state of law and the integrity of local democracy in Lampung Province. Inconsistencies in mechanisms, unclear authority, and legal uncertainty in handling election administration violations reflect the gap between electoral law norms (*law in the books*) and its implementation practices (*Law In Action*), which is the core of the problem in this study. (Friedman & Hayden, 2017).

Administrative violations in elections can lead to illegal voting, which in turn undermines the integrity of election results and undermines public trust in the democratic process. Forms of violations such as fraud and corruption can also occur due to administrative violations during the election process that cause voting to be invalid and can interfere with the honesty of election results and reduce public trust in the election process, thus potentially damaging the integrity and basic principles of democracy (Scott, 2019). The problem of fraud and corruption in the implementation of elections is not only a local or provincial problem, but a national problem that occurs in various regions in Indonesia. One example is the rampant practice of money politics in the implementation of elections in many regions which has been identified as a form of electoral corruption and is a serious threat to the quality of democracy in Indonesia. A study states that the practice of money politics is still happening in various regions in the 2019 and 2024 elections and has become a systemic and organized pattern of fraud at the national level (IDEA, 2024). Another report explained that vote buying and abuse of state facilities in election contests are forms of violations that are committed massively in various regions and are an indicator of the weak integrity of elections nationally (Rangkuti, 2021). These findings show that administrative violations followed by corrupt practices are not just technical errors, but are symptoms of system inefficiencies, weak accountability of organizers, and lack of law enforcement, thus becoming a serious threat to the sustainability of electoral democracy in Indonesia. Therefore, administrative violations should be taken seriously, as they can threaten democratic stability.

Election administration violations, the researcher found several research results related to the mechanism for handling election administration violations as researched by (Yasmin & Erowati 2025) discussing changes in the mechanism for handling administrative election violations and criminal offenses. By optimizing technology, increasing political literacy, and better collaboration between institutions, it is necessary to strengthen to ensure more transparent and integrity elections. On the other hand, (Apr, 2024) In his research "Law Enforcement Problems in the 2024 General Election in Indonesia", it states the need for election supervision by optimizing legal procedures and increasing voter awareness in order to maintain election integrity. Convoluted procedures are often a hindrance to the speed of resolving violations. Research (Meidiawaty & Israhadi, 2024) Offering a philosophical and normative point of view, emphasizing the importance of strengthening supervision and the involvement of civil society as a central actor in maintaining the legitimacy of democracy. They argue that strong oversight and active public participation can be a major bulwark against manipulative practices and administrative abuses that undermine public trust. These findings are reinforced by research

(Rain, 2024) which highlights the challenges of digitalization in election supervision, where administrative violations now occur not only conventionally, but also through the digital space. This requires adapting the supervisory system and increasing institutional capacity. Collaboration between institutions, as well as the adaptation of the supervisory system to technological developments and local political dynamics, are very important so that the integrity and credibility of elections in Indonesia can be maintained in a sustainable manner.

Responding to various previous studies that discussed the complexity of election violations from various perspectives, this research is here to deepen understanding, especially in the local context in Lampung Province. The latest research related to administrative violations in the election process can be seen from efforts to answer the challenges of modernity and complexity in the implementation of elections. Research (Yasmin & Erowati, 2025) bringing a new perspective by emphasizing the importance of technology optimization in handling administrative violations and increasing political literacy as a preventive measure. Meanwhile, research (Apr, 2024) It offers a practical approach with a focus on optimizing legal procedures and increasing voter awareness to speed up the resolution of violations. (Meidiawaty & Israhadi, 2024) It gives a philosophical dimension by emphasizing the strengthening of supervision and the role of civil society in maintaining the legitimacy of democracy. Lastly, (Rain, 2024) highlighting the challenges of digitalization in election supervision, identifying administrative violations that are now expanding into the digital space, and offering solutions in the form of technology-based surveillance system adaptation and cross-agency collaboration.

Various previous studies have discussed election violations and the role of election supervisory agencies, with some studies focusing on the effectiveness of the authority of the General Election Supervisory Agency in maintaining the integrity of election administration and the challenges of election supervision in the digital era. These studies are generally general and focus on the national context, so they have not specifically examined the handling of election administration violations as a problem in implementation practices at the regional level, which has its own contextual complexity. In the context of Lampung Province, research examining the gap between election legal norms and the practice of handling administrative violations by the General Election Supervisory Agency is still relatively limited, even though the practice of handling administrative violations of the 2024 Election in Lampung shows concrete problems in the form of inconsistencies in the implementation of handling mechanisms, unclear limits of authority between the General Election Supervisory Agency and the General Election Commission, differences in regulatory interpretation, as well as weak evidence that has an impact on the imposition of disproportionate sanctions (Scott, 2019). These aspects have not been comprehensively analyzed within the framework of the principle of the state of law, especially through a normative-empirical approach that links the provisions of election law with social facts on the ground, although legal certainty and the principle of proportionality are important pillars in the enforcement of state administrative laws (Rahayu, S. & Prabowo, 2020). Therefore, there is an academic urgency to present research that not only captures the type and number of election administration violations, but also critically examines how the handling mechanism is carried out by the General Election Supervisory Agency at the provincial level and the extent to which the practice reflects the principles of the rule of law.

Based on this background, the formulation of the problem in this study is as follows: 1) What are the forms and characteristics of administrative violations of the 2024 Election that occurred in Lampung Province?; 2) What is the mechanism for handling violations of the administration of the 2024 Election by the Lampung Provincial General Election Supervisory Agency based on the provisions of applicable laws and regulations?; 3) How is the implementation of the principles of the rule of law, especially the principles of legal certainty, justice, and proportionality, in the practice of handling administrative violations of the 2024 Election in Lampung Province? This study aims to analyze the handling of administrative violations of the 2024 Election in Lampung Province from the perspective of the principle of the rule of law using a normative-empirical approach. In particular, this study aims to: 1) Identify the forms and characteristics of violations of the administration of the 2024 Election that occurred in Lampung Province, 2) Analyze the mechanism for handling violations of the administration of the 2024 Election by the Lampung Provincial General Election Supervisory Agency based on the provisions of applicable laws and regulations, 3) Assess the implementation of the principles of the rule of law, especially the principles of legal certainty, justice, and proportionality, in the practice of handling violations administration of the 2024 Election in Lampung Province.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach with a normative-empirical method. Normative-empirical research is used to analyze or find out the extent to which regulations or laws and laws are running effectively. The function of the normative-empirical research method is to monitor the law directly in order to see the development of the law that runs in society. Normative-empirical legal research is often used to conceptualize what is already written in the rules of law (*The Law In The Book*) and also laws are conceptualized to be used in rules or norms so that humans can behave appropriately (*Law In Action*) (Mushafi, 2025).

The normative approach in this study was used to analyze the legal provisions that regulate election administration violations, while the empirical approach was used to examine how these provisions were implemented by election organizers in the practice of handling violations of the 2024 election administration in Lampung Province. The normative approach in this study is focused on the study of relevant laws and regulations, namely Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections, General Election Commission Regulation Number 15 of 2024, and Regulation of the Election Supervisory Agency Number 9 of 2024. This study aims to identify the norms, procedures, and authority of election organizing institutions in handling election administration violations. Meanwhile, the empirical approach is directed to obtain a factual picture of the implementation of these provisions through the practice of supervision and handling of administrative violations by the KPU and Bawaslu at the regional level.

The data sources in this study are systematically divided into three types. Primary data was obtained through in-depth interviews with the General Election Commission (KPU) and the Metro City Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) who were directly involved in the process of supervising and handling administrative violations of the 2024 Election. Secondary data consists of laws and regulations, decisions or recommendations related to election administration violations, official reports on election supervision, and scientific literature in the

form of books and legal journals relevant to the research theme. Tertiary data is used as supporting data, such as legal dictionaries and encyclopedias, which serve to clarify legal terms, concepts, and definitions used in research.

Data analysis was carried out qualitatively with an inductive thinking pattern. The application of inductive analysis in this study is carried out by inventorying and classifying empirical findings in the field regarding the types of election administration violations, handling mechanisms, and obstacles faced by election organizers. The findings are then linked and compared with applicable legal norms to assess the suitability between normative provisions and their implementation practices, as well as to assess the extent to which the principles of the rule of law and the principle of legal certainty have been applied in handling election administration violations.

The validity of the data in this study is maintained through data validation techniques in the form of source triangulation and *cross-check* of documents. Triangulation is carried out by comparing the interview results data with official documents of the KPU and Bawaslu as well as the provisions of applicable laws and regulations. In addition, *the document is cross-checked* to ensure consistency between normative data and empirical facts, so that the research results have an adequate level of reliability and validity

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Election Administration Violations in Indonesia

General elections are the main instrument in modern democracy that serves to ensure the participation of the people in determining the direction of political power legally and constitutionally. From the perspective of the rule of law, the sustainability of democratic elections requires compliance with all established administrative procedures and mechanisms. Election law enforcement (*Electoral Law Enforcement*) is a prerequisite for the election to be not only procedurally legitimate, but also to have substantive legitimacy (Nasir, 2020). Therefore, any form of violation, including administrative violations, has the potential to undermine the integrity of the election process and results.

Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections classifies election violations into four categories, namely administrative violations, ethical violations, election crimes, and other violations. Administrative violations are a form of irregularities in the procedures, procedures, and mechanisms of holding elections stipulated in laws and regulations, which, although often seen as technical errors, have a significant impact on the fairness and equality of political competition (Asnawi, 2023)

In the perspective of procedural democracy theory, as put forward by (Diamond, 1999) The quality of democracy is highly determined by the continuation of fair, competitive, and transparent procedures. Administrative violations such as manipulation of voter lists, delays in logistics distribution, or misuse of state facilities directly injure the principle *free and fair election*. Meanwhile, (Habermas, 1996) emphasizing that the legitimacy of democracy can only be realized if the political process runs based on rational, inclusive, and publicly accountable procedures. Thus, administrative violations are not just a technical problem, but a threat to the legitimacy of democracy itself.

The factors that cause administrative violations do not occur in a vacuum, but are influenced by various structural and cultural dimensions. Some in among them are the weakness of multi-interpreted legal norms, the lack of voter literacy, and the intervention of local political elites who seek to secure victory through non-democratic means (Hartanto, 2021). In addition, the organizers' low understanding of the regulations is also a gap for violations. For example, violations of the registration procedures for prospective election participants are often caused by a lack of technical training and socialization of the latest regulations, such as KPU Regulation Number 10 of 2023 concerning the Nomination of Members of the House of Representatives and DPRD, and Perbawaslu Number 8 of 2022 concerning the Handling of Administrative Violations.

The results of the study show that administrative violations in Lampung Province occur repeatedly and tend to increase in each election period. These forms of violations are spread across almost all stages of the election, ranging from updating voter data, logistics distribution, campaigns, to vote recapitulation. (Saputra, 2020). This condition indicates the weak consistency of supervision and the lack of optimal institutional capacity of election organizers, especially in ensuring compliance with administrative procedures (Rumbia, 2024). The following is data from Lampung Province showing an increase in cases from those that show that administrative violations are getting more serious and widespread.

Table 1. Data on Administrative Violations in Lampung Province in 2014-2024

No.	Types of Administrative Violations	2014 (Location)	2019 (Location)	2024 (Location)
1	Delay in the distribution of election logistics	East Lampung, Tanggamus, Right Way	Pesawaran, South Lampung, Tulang Bawang	Central Lampung, West Coast, Mesuji
2	Use of state facilities for campaigns	Bandar Lampung, Pringsewu	Metro, North Lampung, Tanggamus	South Lampung, Pesawaran, West Lampung
3	KPPS officers are not neutral/involved in campaigns	North Lampung	Right Way, West Onion Bone, Metro	Tanggamus, Pringsewu, Central Lampung
4	Voters are not listed in the DPT	South Lampung, West Onion Bone	East Lampung, Mesuji, Pesawaran	Bandar Lampung, Way Kanan, West Lampung
5	Installation of APKs in prohibited locations	Bandar Lampung, Metro, Central Lampung	South Lampung, Pringsewu, East Lampung	North Lampung, Pesawaran, West Coast
6	Campaign schedule violations	West Lampung	Central Lampung, Metro	Tanggamus, Mesuji

No.	Types of Administrative Violations	2014 (Location)	2019 (Location)	2024 (Location)
7	Delay in recapitulation at the sub-district level	Tanggamus, Onion Bones	East Lancashire, Right Way, Right Way	South Lampung, Tulang Bawang, Metro
8	Incompatibility between C1 and DAA1	—	Bandar Lampung, Central Lampung	East Lampung, Pringsewu
Total Cases		19 cases	33 cases	52 cases

Source : Bawaslu Prov. Lampung in 2014, 2019, and 2024

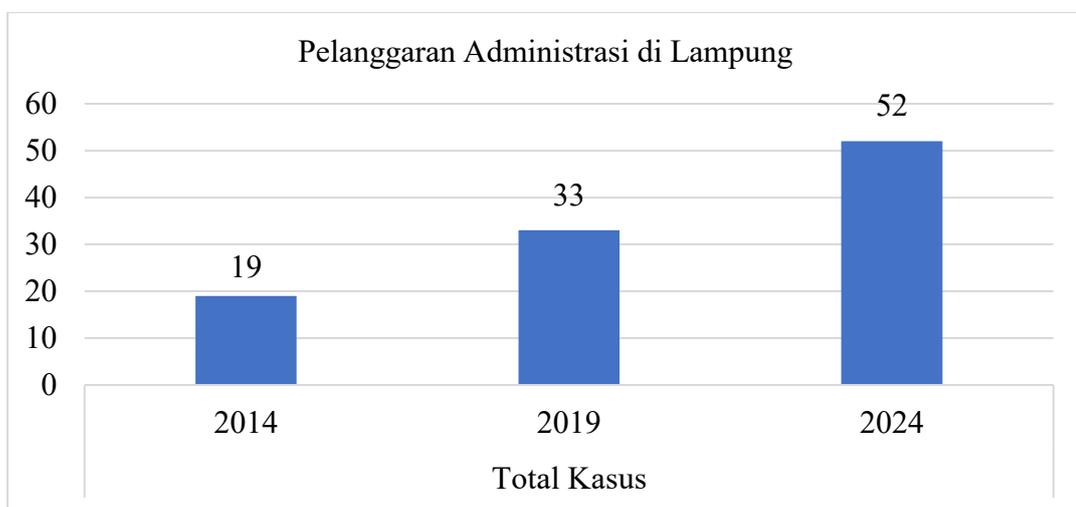


Image 1. Increase in Administrative Violations in Lampung

The increase in the number and distribution of administrative violations in Lampung from 2014 to 2024 reflects the lack of optimal efforts to prevent and enforce violations, even though institutional supervision has been strengthened. During the 2024 Election campaign period in Lampung, the Lampung Provincial Bawaslu reported that between September 25 and October 25, 2024, there were 44 alleged violations that were handled, including administrative violations, civil servant neutrality, and election crimes (Tribrata Lampung, 2024). In a slightly longer campaign span (September 25–November 4, 2024), this supervisory agency recorded 55 findings and reports of violations that were processed with the district/city Panwaslu (Tribrata Lampung, 2024). Previously, in the 2020 Regional Head Election in the city of Bandar Lampung, Bawaslu decided that the candidate pair with the serial number 03 was proven to have committed administrative violations in a "structured, systematic, and massive (TSM)" manner, resulting in disqualification (Bawaslu, 2021). This set of data and findings shows that violations in Lampung are not just sporadic incidents or technical errors but reflect a systemic pattern: although institutional oversight has been strengthened, administrative violations, civil servant neutrality, and other irregularities still appear consistently. This reinforces the idea that

the cause is not just *Human Error*, but the inefficiency of the system and the weak accountability of election organizers and participants.

Based on the legal point of view, election administrative violations are handled through a quasi-judicial adjudication mechanism by Bawaslu as stipulated in Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections, especially Articles 456–486. This provision gives the authority to Bawaslu to receive reports, conduct preliminary studies, examine related parties, hold open hearings, and issue binding decisions against election organizers. This quasi-judicial authority allows for the resolution of administrative disputes quickly, fairly, and accountably without having to go through a formal judicial process that tends to take a long time. However, administrative violations cannot be seen as mere technical errors, because if left unchecked, they can undermine the principle of electoral justice and injure substantive democracy. Therefore, the legal approach needs to be complemented by an educational approach and institutional strengthening in order to build an honest and fair election culture (Harahap & Thamrin, 2022).

Election administrative violations are a multidimensional problem that has an impact not only on the technical aspects of implementation, but also on the quality of democracy. Handling and preventing it requires synergy between strong regulations, adequate institutional capacity, and increasing people's political literacy. Election integrity is not only measured by the validity of the results, but also by the extent to which the election process reflects the principles of participation, accountability, and transparency. In this context, strengthening the effectiveness of the latest Perbawaslu and PKPU is a strategic step, the indicators of which can be seen from legal certainty, reducing repeated violations, accelerating dispute resolution, and increasing compliance of election participants. In addition, effective regulations must be easy to understand and accessible, adaptive to technological developments, and supported by political education and digital-based supervision to realize democratic and integrity elections.

The Role and Handling of Bawaslu on Election Administration Violations

The General Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) has a crucial role in supervising all stages of general elections (Elections) (On; Arif et al., 2022). As an institution Independent, Bawaslu is responsible for ensuring the sustainability of a healthy democracy. Bawaslu's duties include the preparation of standards for the implementation of election supervision at each level, preventing and taking action against election violations and disputes in the election process, and supervising the preparation and implementation of the stages of holding elections (Therasari, 2022). This places Bawaslu as the main actor in the election checks and balances system, especially in the context of the increasing complexity of administrative violations and the potential manipulation of the democratic process.

Bawaslu has broad authority based on Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections, which was later amended to Law Number 1 of 2022 (Rain, 2024). Bawaslu is authorized to supervise the preparation for the implementation of the Election, including the planning and determination of the schedule of the Election stages, the planning of logistics procurement by the KPU, the socialization of the implementation of the Election, and the implementation of other preparations in accordance with laws and regulations (Saleh, 2021). Bawaslu also supervises the implementation of the stages of holding elections, such as updating

voter data, determining voter lists, arranging electoral areas, Assignment election participants, and the nomination of candidate pairs. In addition, Bawaslu has the authority to provide recommendations on findings and reports related to actions that are suspected of containing criminal elements of the election to the authorities, so that coordination with law enforcement agencies is a must (Rain, 2023).

In the context of handling election administration violations, Bawaslu has a relatively systematic and structured mechanism as stipulated in Bawaslu Regulation Number 7 of 2022 and Bawaslu Regulation Number 8 of 2022. This mechanism includes the stages of receiving reports or findings, formal and material verification, clarification, examination of evidence, and decision-making within a certain time limit. Normatively, the design of the mechanism has met the principles of *due process of law*, legal certainty, and efficiency of case handling. However, in empirical reality, the implementation of this mechanism often faces obstacles, such as limited handling time, weak evidence quality, and resistance from supervised parties, thus having an impact on optimizing election administrative law enforcement.

The authority of Bawaslu to impose administrative sanctions or provide recommendations to the KPU and law enforcement officials shows that Bawaslu's position does not stand alone, but depends on the effectiveness of cross-agency coordination. This is where structural problems arise, because Bawaslu's recommendations are not always optimally responded to by the relevant institutions. This condition has the potential to weaken the coercive power of supervision and create the impression that the handling of administrative violations is still formalistic, not substantive. Research findings (Haryani, 2023) reinforcing this view by pointing out that although normative procedures have been implemented, there are still serious challenges in terms of human resource capacity, legal interpretation, and synchronization of authority.

In the final stages of the election, the enactment of Bawaslu Regulation Number 5 of 2024 and Bawaslu Regulation Number 11 of 2024 emphasizes the role of Bawaslu in guarding the legitimacy of election results, especially in supervising the determination of elected candidates and voting equipment. The strengthening of this regulation theoretically reflects the state's efforts to close the manipulation gap in the most crucial phase of the election. However, its effectiveness still depends on the consistency of supervision at the regional level and the courage of Bawaslu in cracking down on violations involving political actors and state apparatus.

Thus, it can be analyzed that Bawaslu already has an adequate legal framework and supervision mechanism normatively, but its effectiveness in maintaining the integrity of the election is greatly influenced by structural, institutional, and praxis factors in the field. Bawaslu is not just a symbolic institution, but an institution with a strong mandate; however, without capacity building, inter-agency coordination, and consistent law enforcement commitments, these strategic roles risk not being fully able to prevent and address election administrative violations comprehensively.

Policy Recommendations for Handling Election Administration Violations

Administrative violations in the conduct of elections have become a serious challenge that threatens the principles of fairness and legitimacy of election results (Nuraini, 2023).

Violations Administration Not only is it considered a procedural error, but it also has a systemic impact that can disrupt the integrity of the election as a whole. The General Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu), as an independent supervisory agency, has a constitutional responsibility to ensure that each stage of the election runs in accordance with the principles of electoral legality and fairness (Rahmawati, et al. 2022). However, various empirical findings show that the effectiveness of handling administrative violations still faces structural obstacles, especially in the aspects of policy implementation, inter-institutional coordination, and the coercion of sanctions.

Based on the evaluation of the practice of handling election administrative violations, it can be analyzed that the weak synchronization between Bawaslu and the KPU in following up on violations in a timely and consistent manner is one of the root problems. This disintegration is exacerbated by differences in the interpretation of technical regulations and the limited understanding of election organizers at the regional level. In addition, the tendency of administrative violation decisions that are not followed by strict sanctions creates the impression of impunity and weakens the deterrent effect, so that it has the potential to repeat similar violations in the next election. Therefore, policy recommendations need to be directed more operationally and differentiated based on their implementation time horizon so that they can be implemented realistically and sustainably.

a) Short-Term Recommendations

First, strengthening technical regulations that are more operational. In the short term, Bawaslu and the KPU need to compile and improve implementation guidelines (juklak) and technical instructions (juknis) that are practical, detailed, and easy to understand by election organizers at the regional level. The existing technical regulations are still normative and leave a wide scope for interpretation, making it difficult to implement them in the field, especially related to the accreditation of election monitors and logistics distribution. (Rahayu & Prabowo, 2020). The preparation of joint SOPs between institutions (Bawaslu, KPU, and DKPP) is a strategic step to ensure uniformity in the application of election administration laws to the sub-district level (Jamil, 2024).

Second, the affirmation and strengthening of administrative sanctions that have legal force. In the short term, it is necessary to rearrange the classification of administrative sanctions in Bawaslu and PKPU regulations so that they are not solely recommendative. Sanctions need to be formulated firmly, proportionately, and bindingly, so that the Bawaslu decision must be followed up by the relevant parties (Rahayu & Prabowo, 2020). The strengthening of these sanctions is important to build a deterrent effect and increase the compliance of election participants and technical organizers with legal provisions. (Husaini, 2024)

b) Long-Term Recommendations

First, the establishment of an integrated monitoring system between institutions. In the long term, the handling of election administrative violations needs to be supported by a digital-based supervision system that is integrated between Bawaslu, KPU, DKPP, and independent monitoring institutions. This system can contain public complaint channels, reporting violations in a systematic manner *real-time*, as well as a shared database that can

be accessed by all stakeholders. (Lestari & Hidayat, 2022). This integration will reduce overlapping authority, improve the efficiency of handling violations, and strengthen the transparency of the oversight process; (Sarkani, 2025).

Second, increasing the institutional capacity of election organizers in the regions. Strengthening the capacity of human resources through continuous training in election administration law needs to be a long-term agenda. Organizers at the regional level must have a uniform and comprehensive understanding of the procedures for handling violations, so that the implementation of regulations no longer depends on subjective interpretation. This effort is in line with the direction of the Bawaslu institutional strengthening policy as stated in the 2020–2024 Bawaslu Strategic Plan.

The separation of short-term and long-term recommendations, handling violations of election administration is expected to be not only reactive, but also oriented towards systemic improvement. This approach is an important prerequisite for realizing effective and equitable law enforcement of election administration laws that are able to maintain democratic integrity in a sustainable manner.

Election Administrative Supervision Problems: Between Legal Norms and Practice in Lampung Province

The findings of the study show that the administrative supervision mechanism for the 2024 Election in Lampung Province still faces various structural and systemic weaknesses. These weaknesses have a direct impact on the decline in the integrity and legitimacy of the election process. Various forms of administrative violations, such as the existence of fictitious voters in the Permanent Voter List (DPT), the use of voting rights that are not in accordance with domicile, manipulation of vote data, and inaccuracies in updating voter data, indicate that the problem of supervision is not purely technical. These violations are closely related to weak field verification, limited capacity of election supervisors, unpreparedness of the election administration system, and low levels of legal literacy among both election organizers and the public.

From the perspective of democracy theory, these empirical findings strengthen the view that procedural democracy alone is not enough to ensure the implementation of elections with integrity. Referring to the concept of substantive democracy as put forward by Habermas and Diamond, the quality of democracy is not only determined by the fulfillment of formal procedures, but also by the existence of transparency, equal public participation, and accountability of election organizers. The weak administrative supervision that occurs in Lampung Province reflects a failure to fulfill the principles of substantive democracy, so that it has the potential to give birth to fragile political legitimacy and does not fully represent the will of the people.

Normatively, Law Number 7 of 2017 has provided a fairly strong legal basis for the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) in dealing with administrative violations through a quasi-judicial adjudication mechanism as stipulated in Articles 456 to 486. These provisions are further emphasized through Bawaslu Regulation Number 8 of 2022 and Bawaslu Regulation Number 5 of 2024 which regulates procedures for resolving violations and supervising the determination of election results. However, the findings of the study show that there is a

significant gap between written legal norms (law in the books) and their implementation practice in the field (law in action). These relatively adequate regulations have not been fully implemented consistently and firmly, so the effectiveness of election administrative supervision is low.

Furthermore, the weak effectiveness of administrative supervision is not only caused by technical factors, but also by various structural problems. These problems include coordination between election organizing agencies that are not optimal, limited capacity of election supervisory human resources, and lack of public participation in the supervision process. This condition confirms that election supervision should be understood as a continuous and preventive control process, not just a reactive evaluation after the voting stage is completed. As stated by Muchsan, effective supervision must be able to detect and correct potential irregularities early on so that they do not develop into repeated and widespread violations.

In this context, the General Election Commission (KPU) as the election organizer plays a strategic role in ensuring the validity of voter data and the accuracy of the implementation of each stage of the election. The implementation of KPU Decision Number 528 of 2023 concerning the Handling of Administrative Violations needs to be strengthened through the use of integrated digital technology, increasing the capacity of human resources, and more effective coordination with Bawaslu. Without these strengthening efforts, it will be difficult for election administrative supervision to make a significant contribution to improving the quality of democracy.

Thus, the findings of this study confirm that the administrative supervision of elections in Lampung Province still needs a thorough overhaul. Strengthening regulatory aspects must go hand in hand with increasing institutional capacity, utilizing information technology, and increasing public awareness and participation in election supervision. Without synergy between normative, institutional, and social aspects, elections have the potential to be only procedurally legitimate, but weak substantively in reflecting the sovereignty of the people and the principles of democracy with integrity.

CONCLUSION

Administrative violations in the 2024 Election in Lampung Province show that there is a discrepancy between election law norms and their implementation practices in the field. The findings of this study confirm that administrative violations cannot be seen solely as technical errors, but as structural problems influenced by weak supervision, low electoral law literacy, and suboptimal performance and coordination between election organizing institutions. This condition has an impact on the declining quality of election administration, weakening the principle of electoral justice, and reducing public trust in the democratic process.

Based on these findings, this study recommends the need to strengthen an integrated and sustainable election supervision system. Bawaslu needs to increase the effectiveness of handling administrative violations through strengthening institutional coordination and the use of supervision technology. Meanwhile, the KPU needs to improve election administration governance, especially in updating voter data, increasing internal accountability, and expanding education and socialization of election law to the public. Strengthening participatory supervision is also an important step to encourage public involvement in maintaining election

integrity, so that future elections can take place in a more transparent, accountable, and in accordance with democratic principles.

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