

"AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF ACT 465 OF 1969, AS AMENDED, THE ARKANSAS ELECTION CODE, TO PROVIDE THAT UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR OR CIRCUIT CLERK SHALL NOT BE GROUPED TOGETHER WITH UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES FOR OTHER OFFICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Subsection (h) of Section 13 of Article 6 of Act 465 of 1969, the same being Arkansas Statutes Section 3-613(h), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(h) Printing of names on ballot. Every ballot shall contain the name of each candidate who has been nominated or has qualified in accordance with law for each office. The names of the candidates shall be listed in a perpendicular column under the name of each office to be filled. Provided, however, that the names of all unopposed candidates for offices for which no notice has been filed within the time prescribed in Section 14 of this Article, less and except the names of all unopposed candidates for the office of mayor or circuit clerk, shall be grouped together on the ballot indicating the office and the name of the unopposed candidate for each such office in a single column. At the top of the list of the names of all such unopposed candidates shall appear on the ballot the words 'Unopposed Candidates' and to the right thereof there shall be a square in which the voter may cast a vote for all such candidates by placing an 'X' in such square. The names of unopposed candidates for the office of mayor or circuit clerk shall be separately printed from any grouping of unopposed candidates, with a square in which the voter may cast a vote for each such unopposed candidate for the office of mayor or circuit clerk by placing an 'X' in such square, so that such votes may be separately counted and tabulated as required in Section 17 of Article 7 of this Act."

SECTION 2. Subsection (1) of Section 13 of Article 6 of Act 465 of 1969, the same being Arkansas Statutes Section 3-613(1), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(1) Placement of squares on ballot. At the right of the name of each candidate and on the same line there shall be a square. Above each Act, Amendment, or Measure to be voted on there shall be the words 'For' and 'Against' - one above the other with a square to the right of each word and on the same line. Provided, however, that with respect to all offices and the candidates therefor who are unopposed and have been grouped together in the manner provided in subsection (h) hereof, the names of all such candidates and their respective offices shall appear under the heading of 'Unopposed Candidates' and the elector shall vote on each and all such candidates by casting a single vote in a square placed to the right of the heading 'Unopposed Candidates' as provided in subsection (h) hereof."

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. If any provisions of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this

Act are declared to be severable.

APPROVED: 3/17/87

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