

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **79th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1993**  
4 **By: Representative Smith**

# A Bill

**HOUSE BILL 1014**

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
9 PERTAINING TO VOLUNTEER DEPUTY VOTER REGISTRARS FOR THE  
10 PURPOSE OF INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES FOR QUALIFIED CITIZENS  
11 TO REGISTER TO VOTE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

## Subtitle

14 "AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
15 DEALING WITH VOLUNTEER DEPUTY VOTER REGISTRARS FOR THE  
16 PURPOSE OF INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOTER  
17 REGISTRATION."

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

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-4-201 is hereby amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 "7-4-201. Appointment - Term of office.

24 (a) The permanent voter registrar of each county shall appoint no less  
25 than one (1) volunteer deputy voter registrar for every two thousand (2,000)  
26 persons residing in each justice of the peace district in their county  
27 according to the latest federal census.

28 (b) The term of office of the volunteer deputy voter registrar shall be  
29 coterminate with the permanent voter registrar's term.

30 (c) If, by January 1, 1988, less than eighty-five percent (85%) of the  
31 residents who are of voting age according to the latest federal census in any  
32 county are registered, the permanent voter registrar shall appoint no less  
33 than two (2) volunteer deputy voter registrars for every two thousand (2,000)  
34 persons residing in each justice of the peace district in their county  
35 according to the latest federal census.

1 (d) Where a justice of the peace district contains parts of both an  
2 incorporated area and an unincorporated area, the permanent voter registrars  
3 shall appoint no less than one (1) volunteer deputy voter registrar in the  
4 incorporated area and no less than one (1) volunteer deputy voter registrar in  
5 the unincorporated area.

6 (e) The permanent voter registrar shall not discriminate in the  
7 appointment or termination of volunteer deputy voter registrars on the basis  
8 of race, gender, religion, or national origin, except to meet the requirements  
9 of this subchapter."

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11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-4-204 is hereby amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 "7-4-204. Disqualifications - Recruitment.

14 (a) The permanent voter registrars shall not refuse any lawful request  
15 for appointment as a deputy voter registrar by a qualified person except a  
16 person of known mental incapacity, of violent temperament, or who has been  
17 convicted of a felony involving voter irregularities.

18 (b) If no qualified person requests appointment to serve as a volunteer  
19 deputy voter registrar, the permanent voter registrar shall recruit qualified  
20 persons to serve as volunteer deputy voter registrars."

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22 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-4-206(a) is hereby amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 "(a) As a condition of appointment as volunteer deputy voter  
25 registrars, the permanent voter registrar shall require prospective appointees  
26 to complete training in their duties, not normally to exceed a total of two  
27 (2) hours."

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29 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 7-4-208 is hereby amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 "7-4-208. Requests for registration - Limited appointments -  
32 Registration drives.

33 (a) (1) The permanent voter registrars shall honor any lawful request to  
34 perform voter registration in any part of their county.

35 (2) The requests shall be honored by the permanent voter

1 registrar who may delegate the task to a deputy clerk, a volunteer deputy  
2 voter registrar resident in the area of the request, or any volunteer deputy  
3 voter registrar.

4 (b) (1) Either personally or through a volunteer deputy voter registrar,  
5 the permanent voter registrar, before each contested primary or general  
6 election takes place, shall conduct at least one (1) voter registration drive  
7 in each town and unincorporated area where a contested primary or general  
8 election is to take place.

9 (2) The drive shall be at a time and place prescribed by the  
10 permanent voter registrar to the volunteer deputy voter registrar to target  
11 times and places where unregistered eligible residents are likely to be  
12 concentrated."

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14 SECTION 5. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
15 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
16 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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18 SECTION 6. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
19 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
20 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
21 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
22 act are declared to be severable.

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24 SECTION 7. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
25 hereby repealed.

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27 /s/J. Smith

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***As Engrossed: 2/8/93***

**HB 1014**

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