

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

# A Bill

**HOUSE BILL 1706**

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE VOTER REGISTRATION AND SIGNATURE  
9 IMAGING SYSTEM COMMITTEE; TO PROVIDE THAT THE COMMITTEE  
10 SHALL ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION AND VOTER  
11 SIGNATURE IMAGING SYSTEM; TO CREATE THE VOTER REGISTRATION  
12 AND SIGNATURE IMAGING SYSTEM FUND; TO IMPOSE AN ADDITIONAL  
13 MARRIAGE LICENSE FEE OF TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00) TO FINANCE  
14 AND MAINTAIN THE STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION AND  
15 SIGNATURE IMAGING SYSTEM; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR  
16 OTHER PURPOSES."

## Subtitle

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19 "AN ACT TO CREATE THE VOTER REGISTRATION AND SIGNATURE  
20 IMAGING SYSTEM COMMITTEE TO PROVIDE A STATEWIDE VOTER  
21 REGISTRATION AND SIGNATURE IMAGE SYSTEM."  
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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25 SECTION 1. (a) There is hereby created the "Voter Registration and  
26 Signature Imaging System Committee". The committee shall be composed of the  
27 following:

- 28 (1) The Auditor of State or his designated representative;  
29 (2) The Secretary of State or his designated representative;  
30 (3) The Director of the State Department of Computer Services or  
31 his designated representative; and  
32 (4) Two (2) persons designated by the Arkansas Association of  
33 County Clerks to serve at the pleasure of the Association.

34 (b) Members of the committee shall serve without compensation.  
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1 SECTION 2. (a) The committee shall organize by selecting one (1) of  
2 its members to serve as chairman and one (1) member as vice-chairman.

3 (b) The committee may establish rules of procedure for the conduct of  
4 committee business but all action of the committee shall be by majority vote  
5 of the full membership of the committee.

6 (c) The committee shall meet on call of the chairman, upon written  
7 request of any three (3) members, or at other times as may be provided by  
8 rules of the committee.

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10 SECTION 3. The committee shall have the authority and responsibility  
11 to establish a statewide voter registration system with signature imaging.  
12 This system shall maintain a current database of all registered voters and  
13 voter signatures. The master system shall be located in the office of the  
14 Auditor of State. The master system shall be maintained by each Permanent  
15 Registrar (County Clerk) supplying current voter information to the Auditor of  
16 State by data line, tape, disks, or other media.

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18 SECTION 4. The Department of Computer Services shall cooperate with and  
19 assist the committee in determining the computer equipment and software needed  
20 in the office of Auditor of State, in the office of the Secretary of State and  
21 in the several counties to establish the system and shall assist the committee  
22 in preparing specifications for soliciting bids for the equipment and  
23 software.

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25 SECTION 5. The State Purchasing Office shall cooperate with and assist  
26 the committee in acquiring necessary equipment for the statewide voter  
27 registration and signature imaging system by advertising for and letting a bid  
28 or bids for the acquisition of such equipment and software as the committee  
29 shall determine is necessary for the system.

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31 SECTION 6. When the committee has completed its task of establishing  
32 the system described in Section 3, the committee shall have served its purpose  
33 and shall be dissolved. The statewide voter registration system shall, from  
34 *that point, be under the control of the State Board of Election Commissioners*  
35 *and be housed in the office of the Auditor of State.*

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2           SECTION 7. There is hereby created on the books of the State Treasurer,  
3 the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State the Voter  
4 Registration and Signature Imaging System Fund. The monies deposited into  
5 this fund shall be used by the Voter Registration and Signature Imaging System  
6 Committee created by this act to establish a statewide voter registration and  
7 signature imaging system and by the State Board of Election Commissioners to  
8 maintain the statewide voter registration and signature imaging system.

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10           SECTION 8. In addition to all other fees prescribed by law for each  
11 marriage license issued, all county clerks in this state shall charge an  
12 additional fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each marriage license issued in  
13 Arkansas. The clerk shall collect and transmit the ten dollar (\$10.00)  
14 additional marriage license fee to the State Treasurer who shall deposit it in  
15 the Voter Registration and System Imaging Fund created under this act as  
16 special revenues. The revenues deposited into the fund shall be used to  
17 establish and maintain a statewide voter registration and signature imaging  
18 system under the purposes of this act.

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20           SECTION 9. All provisions of this act of general and permanent nature  
21 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
22 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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24           SECTION 10. If any provisions of this act or the application thereof to  
25 any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect  
26 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
27 the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
28 act are declared to be severable.

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30           SECTION 11. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
31 hereby repealed.

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33           SECTION 12. Emergency. It is hereby found and determined by the  
34 Seventy-Ninth General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that technology  
35 provides the means and the mechanism to provide a statewide voter registration

1 system with verifiable signatures and up-to-date residence information on each  
2 voter in Arkansas; that a technically advanced statewide voter registration  
3 will eliminate the opportunity for voter registration fraud and, at the same  
4 time, offer voters a more timely and accessible voter registration system; and  
5 that this blending of technology and verification will provide the most  
6 effective voter registration system possible. Therefore, in order to  
7 implement this statewide system in the most timely manner, an emergency is  
8 hereby declared to exist, and this act being necessary for the immediate  
9 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, shall be in full force  
10 and effect from and after its passage and approval.

11 */s/C. Henry*

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***As Engrossed: 3/3/93 3/9/93***

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