State of Arkansas 1 A Bill 2 82nd General Assembly 3 Regular Session, 1999 HOUSE BILL 2178 4 5 By: Representative Shoffner 6 7 For An Act To Be Entitled 8 "AN ACT TO AMEND AMENDMENT 51, SECTION 10 TO PERMIT 9 THE COUNTY CLERK TO SEND OUT ADDRESS CONFIRMATIONS; 10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES." 11 12 Subtitle 13 "TO AMEND AMENDMENT 51, SECTION 10 TO 14 15 PERMIT THE COUNTY CLERK TO SEND OUT 16 ADDRESS CONFIRMATIONS." 17 18 19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 20 SECTION 1. Amendment 51, Section 10 of the Arkansas Constitution is 21 22 amended to read as follows: "§ 10. Transfer and change of status. 23 24 (a) Upon a change of legal residence within the county, or a change of name, any registered voter may cause his registration to be transferred to his 25 new address or new name by completing and mailing a federal or state mail 26 voter registration application form, by updating his address at the Office of 27 28 Driver Services, any state revenue office, public assistance agency, 29 disabilities agency, or other voter registration agency, by signing a mailed request to the permanent registrar, giving his present address and the address 30 31 at which he was last registered or his present name and the name under which he was last registered, or by applying in person at the office of the 32 33 permanent registrar. (b) If the change of legal residence is made pursuant to subsection (a) 34 35 or subdivision (c)(1) of this section during the thirty-day administrative cut-off period immediately prior to any election scheduled within the county 36

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the registered voter shall retain his right to vote in the scheduled election in the precinct to which he just moved.

- (c) The permanent registrar shall conduct a uniform, nondiscriminatory, address confirmation program during each odd-numbered year to ensure that voter registration lists are accurate and current. The address confirmation program shall be completed not later than ninety (90) days prior to a primary or general election for federal office. Based on change of address data received from the United States Postal Service or its licensees, or other unconfirmed data indicating that a registered voter no longer resides at his or her registered address, the permanent registrar shall send a forwardable address confirmation notice, including a postage-paid and preaddressed return card, to enable the voter to verify or correct the address information.
- (1) If change of address data indicates that the voter has moved to a new residence address in the same county and, if the county is divided into more than one (1) congressional district, the same congressional district, the address confirmation notice shall contain the following statement:

'We have received notification that you have moved to a new address in County (or in the Congressional District). We will reregister you at your new address unless, within ten (10) days, you notify us that your change of address is not a change of your permanent residence. You may notify us by returning the attached postage-paid postcard or by calling (...) ...- If this is not a permanent change of residence and if you do not notify us within ten (10) days you may be required to update your residence address in order to vote at future elections.'

(2) If the change of address data indicates that the voter has moved to a new address in another county or, if a county is divided into more than one (1) congressional district, to a new address in the same county but in a new congressional district, the notice shall include the following statement:

'We have received notification that you have moved to a new address not in County (or not in the Congressional District). If you no longer live in County (or in the Congressional District), you must reregister at your new residence address in order to vote in the next

- 1 election. If you are still an Arkansas resident, you may obtain a form to
- 2 register to vote by calling your County Clerk's Office or the Secretary of
- 3 State. If your change of address is not a change of your permanent residence,
- 4 you must return the attached postage-paid postcard. If you do not return this
- 5 card and continue to reside in \dots County (and in the \dots
- 6 Congressional District), you may be required to provide identification and
- 7 update your residence address in order to vote at future elections, and if you
- 8 do not vote at any election in the period between the date of this notice and
- 9 the second federal general election after the date of this notice, your voter
- 10 registration will be cancelled and you will have to reregister in order to
- 11 vote. If the change of address is permanent, please return the attached
- 12 postage-paid postcard which will assist us in keeping our voter registration
- 13 records accurate.'

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- (d) The county clerk may send out an address confirmation to any voter when they receive unconfirmed information that the voter no longer resides at the address on the voter registration records. The county clerk shall follow the same confirmation procedure as set forth in subsection (c).
- (d)(e) Based on change of address information received pursuant to subsections (a) and (c) of this section, the permanent registrar shall:
- (1) Update and correct the voter's registration if the information indicates that the voter has moved to a new address within the same county and the same congressional district;
- (2) Designate the voter as inactive if the information indicates the voter has moved to a new address in another county or to a new address in another congressional district in the same county, or if the address confirmation notices have been returned as undeliverable; or
- (3) Cancel the voter registration in the county from which the voter has moved if the voter verifies in writing that he or she has moved to a residence address in another county. [As amended by Acts 1977, No. 882, § 1; 1991, No. 581, § 1; 1995, No. 947, § 6; 1995, No. 964, § 6.]"

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SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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SECTION 3. If any provision 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 the 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. SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.