

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

As Engrossed: S2/19/03

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1256

5 By: Representative Gipson
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE § 14-44-103 TO GIVE
10 CITIES OF THE SECOND CLASS THE OPTION OF ELECTING
11 ALDERMEN TO STAGGERED FOUR-YEAR TERMS; AND FOR
12 OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

15 TO ALLOW FOR STAGGERED 4-YEAR TERMS FOR
16 ALDERMEN IN CITIES OF THE SECOND CLASS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-44-103(a), concerning the election of
22 aldermen from cities of the second class, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1)(A) The Except under subdivision (a)(3) of this section, the
24 qualified voters in cities of the second class shall, on the Tuesday
25 following the first Monday in November 1982, and every two (2) years
26 thereafter, elect for each of the wards of these cities two (2) aldermen, who
27 shall compose the city council.

28 (2)(A) The qualified electors of every city of the second class
29 shall elect from each ward of the city two (2) aldermen, who shall be
30 designated as alderman number 1 and alderman number 2 of the ward.

31 (B)(i) Each candidate for the office of alderman in any
32 election for this office shall designate, in writing, the number of the
33 alderman's office that he is seeking at the time that he files as a candidate
34 for the office.

35 (ii) When this designation shall have been made, the
36 candidate shall not be permitted thereafter to change his designation.



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1 (3)(A) The city council of a city of the second class may refer
 2 to voters an ordinance on the question of electing the two (2) aldermen for
 3 each ward to four-year terms.

4 (B)(i) The voters shall vote on the ordinance at a general
 5 election, or at a special election called for that purpose.

6 (ii) However, the election to approve the four-year
 7 election procedure shall be held no later than February 1 of the year of the
 8 general election in which the procedure is proposed to be effective.

9 (C)(i) If this procedure is adopted by ordinance referred
 10 to and approved by the voters of the city, the initial terms for aldermen
 11 designated as alderman number 1 of each ward shall be a four-year term at the
 12 next general election.

13 (ii) The initial terms for aldermen designated as
 14 alderman number 2 of each ward shall be a two-year term at the next general
 15 election, and thereafter shall be a four-year term, resulting in staggered
 16 terms for the ward.

17 (D)(i) The city council may refer to voters an ordinance
 18 on the question of returning the city to electing aldermen to two-year terms
 19 using the procedures of this subdivision (a)(3) of this section.

20 (ii) If the voters approve returning a city to two-
 21 year terms, all aldermen shall be elected to two-year terms at the next
 22 general election and thereafter.

23 (E) The city council may not refer to voters another
 24 question on electing aldermen to four-year terms or on returning the city to
 25 electing aldermen to two-year terms unless at least four (4) years has passed
 26 since the last election on changing the aldermanic terms.

27
 28 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 14-44-103(b)(1)(A), concerning the election
 29 of aldermen from cities of the second class, is amended to read as follows:

30 (b)(1)(A) Candidates for the office of alderman in cities of the
 31 second class shall reside in the ward from which they seek to be elected and
 32 shall run for election at large, except if the alderman is elected by ward
 33 under subsection (c) of this section. All of the qualified electors of these
 34 cities shall be entitled to vote in the election.

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 36 /s/ Gipson