

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 649

5 By: Senator T. Garner
6 By: Representative G. Hodges
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN LAWS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE
10 ALTERNATING MAY AND MARCH PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY
11 ELECTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE TERMS OF MEMBERS OF
12 SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARDS OF DIRECTORS; TO REPEAL ACT
13 545 OF 2019; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
14 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

15
16
17
18 TO AMEND CERTAIN LAWS NECESSARY TO
19 EFFECTUATE ALTERNATING MAY AND MARCH
20 PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTIONS; TO REPEAL
21 ACT 545 OF 2019; AND TO DECLARE AN
22 EMERGENCY.
23
24

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

26
27 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative intent.

28 The intent of this act is to repeal Act 545 of 2019 before it becomes
29 effective and enact the provisions of this act in place of the provisions of
30 Act 545 of 2019.

31
32 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-13-608, concerning the length of terms of
33 members of school district boards of directors, is amended to add an
34 additional subsection to read as follows:

35 (d) The terms shall be arranged so that a member of a school district
36 board of directors begins his or her term as follows:



1 (1) If the school district holds its annual school election on
 2 the dates of the preferential primary election in even-numbered years and on
 3 the third Tuesday in May in odd-numbered years, the term of the newly elected
 4 member of the school district board of directors shall begin on July 1 of the
 5 year in which the member was elected; and

6 (2) If the school district holds its annual school election on
 7 the date of the general election in even-numbered years and the first Tuesday
 8 following the first Monday in November in odd-numbered years, the term of the
 9 newly elected member of the school district board of directors shall begin on
 10 the January 1 of the year following the year of the annual school election.

11
 12 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-13-617(b)(1), concerning the beginning of
 13 the commission for a school board director, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b)(1) The county clerk, upon receipt of the certification of the
 15 administration of the oath prescribed for a director, shall immediately
 16 commission ~~such persons~~ the director for the term to which he or she has been
 17 elected, and they the director shall enter at once upon their his or her
 18 duties as directors a newly elected director on the date upon which his or
 19 her term begins.

20
 21 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-14-102(a)(1)(A), concerning the dates of
 22 an annual school election, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1)(A) The annual school election shall be held in each school
 24 district of the state ~~on the~~

25 ~~(i) Date of the preferential primary election in~~
 26 ~~even-numbered years and the date that would be designated as the preferential~~
 27 ~~primary election in odd-numbered years if a general election were held in the~~
 28 ~~odd-numbered year; or;~~

29 ~~(ii)~~(i) In even-numbered years, on the date of the:

30 (a) Preferential primary election; or

31 (b) General election; and

32 (ii) In odd numbered years, on the:

33 (a) First Tuesday following the first Monday
 34 in November of each year; or

35 (b) Third Tuesday in May.

36

1 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 7-7-203(a)-(c), concerning the dates of the
2 general primary election and preferential primary election, are amended to
3 read as follows:

4 (a) The general primary election shall be held ~~on~~:

5 (1) For years in which the office of Governor will appear on the
6 ballot at the general election, on the third Tuesday in June preceding the
7 general election; and

8 (2) For years in which the office of President of the United
9 States will appear on the ballot at the general election, on the Tuesday four
10 (4) weeks following the preferential primary election.

11 (b) The preferential primary election shall be held ~~on~~:

12 (1) For years in which the office of Governor will appear on the
13 ballot at the general election, on the Tuesday four (4) weeks before the
14 general primary election; and

15 (2) For years in which the office of President of the United
16 States will appear on the ballot at the general election, on the first
17 Tuesday after the first Monday in March.

18 (c)(1) The party filing period shall be a one-week period beginning
19 and ending on the following dates and times:

20 (A) For years in which the office of Governor will appear
21 on the ballot at the general election, beginning at 12:00 noon one (1) week
22 prior to the first day in March and ending at 12:00 noon on the first day in
23 March and beginning at 12:00 noon one (1) week prior to the first day in
24 March; and

25 (B) For years in which the office of President of the
26 United States will appear on the ballot at the general election, beginning at
27 12:00 noon on the first Monday in November preceding the general primary
28 election and ending at 12:00 noon on the seventh day thereafter.

29 (2) Party pledges, if any, and affidavits of eligibility shall
30 be filed, any filing fees of a political party, if any, shall be paid, and
31 party certificates shall be issued by the party during regular office hours
32 during the party filing period.

33 (3) A party certificate and the political practices pledge shall
34 be filed with the county clerk or the Secretary of State, as the case may be,
35 during regular office hours during the party filing period.

36 (4) The name of a candidate who fails to file a party

1 certificate and political practices pledge by the filing deadline with the
 2 Secretary of State or county clerk, as the case may be, shall not appear on
 3 the ballot.

4 (5) Party pledges, if any, shall be filed, filing fees, if any,
 5 shall be paid, and party certificates and political practice pledges shall be
 6 filed for special primary elections on or before the deadline established by
 7 proclamation of the Governor or other entity authorized to call a special
 8 primary election.

9
 10 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 7-7-304(a) and (b), concerning names to be
 11 included on ballots, are amended to read as follows:

12 (a)(1) ~~Not less than seventy five (75) days before each preferential~~
 13 ~~primary election, the~~ The Secretary of State shall certify to all county
 14 boards of election commissioners full lists of the names of all candidates
 15 who have filed party certificates with him or her to be placed on the ballots
 16 in their respective counties at the preferential primary election not less
 17 than:

18 (A) Seventy-five (75) days before a preferential primary
 19 election that is held in May under § 7-7-203; and

20 (B) Ninety-two (92) days before a preferential primary
 21 election that is held in March under § 7-7-203.

22 (2) A name of a person shall not be certified and shall not be
 23 placed on the ballot if prior to the certification deadline a candidate:

24 (A) Notifies the Secretary of State in writing, signed by
 25 the candidate and acknowledged before an officer authorized to take
 26 acknowledgements, of his or her desire to withdraw as a candidate for the
 27 office or position; or

28 (B) Dies.

29 (b)(1) ~~Not less than seventy five (75) days before each preferential~~
 30 ~~primary election, the~~ The county clerk shall certify to the county board of
 31 election commissioners full lists of the names of all candidates who have
 32 filed party certificates with him or her to be placed on the ballot at the
 33 preferential primary election not less than:

34 (A) Seventy-five (75) days before a preferential primary
 35 election that is held in May under § 7-7-203; and

36 (B) Ninety-two (92) days before a preferential primary

1 election that is held in March under § 7-7-203.

2 (2) A name of a person shall not be certified and shall not be
3 placed on the ballot if prior to the certification deadline a candidate:

4 (A) Notifies the county clerk in writing, signed by the
5 candidate and acknowledged before an officer authorized to take
6 acknowledgements, of his or her desire to withdraw as a candidate for the
7 office or position; or

8 (B) Dies.

9
10 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 7-7-305(b), concerning printing of ballots,
11 is amended to read as follows:

12 (b)(1) The order in which the names of the respective candidates are
13 to appear on the ballots at all preferential and general primary elections
14 shall be determined by lot at the public meeting of the county board of
15 election commissioners held not later than ~~seventy-two~~:

16 (A) Seventy-two (72) days before the a preferential
17 primary election that is held in May under § 7-7-203; and

18 (B) Eighty-nine (89) days before a preferential primary
19 election that is held in March under § 7-7-203.

20 (2) The county board of election commissioners shall give at
21 least ten (10) days' written notice of the time and place of the meeting to
22 the chairs of the county committees if the chairs are not members of the
23 county board of election commissioners, and at least three (3) days before
24 the meeting, shall publish notice of the time and place of holding the
25 meeting in some newspaper of general circulation in the county.

26
27 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 10-2-101(b)(1), concerning the timing of
28 the fiscal session of the General Assembly, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b)(1) The General Assembly shall meet in a fiscal session ~~at 12:00~~
30 ~~noon on the second Monday in February of each even-numbered year~~ to consider
31 appropriation bills in each even-numbered year at 12:00 noon on the:

32 (A) Second Monday in February in years in which the
33 preferential primary election is held in May under § 7-7-203; and

34 (B) Second Wednesday in April in years in which the
35 preferential primary election is held in March under § 7-7-203.

36

1 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 10-2-112(a), concerning the prefiling of
2 bills and resolutions, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a)(1) The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives and the
4 Secretary of the Senate, under the direction and supervision of the Speaker
5 of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate,
6 shall establish a system for the prefiling of bills and resolutions beginning
7 on:

8 (A) November 15 of each year preceding a regular session
9 of the General Assembly; ~~and~~

10 (B)~~(i)~~ The second Monday of January of each year of a
11 fiscal session of the General Assembly which is held in a year in which the
12 preferential primary election is held in May under § 7-7-203; and

13 (C) The second Monday of March of each year of a fiscal
14 session of the General Assembly which is held in a year in which the
15 preferential primary election is held in March under § 7-7-203.

16 ~~(ii)~~(2) A nonappropriation bill may not be prefiled
17 prior to a fiscal session due to the requirement in Arkansas Constitution,
18 Amendment 86, that a concurrent resolution be approved by a vote of two-
19 thirds (2/3) of the members elected to each house before either body may
20 consider a nonappropriation bill.

21 ~~(2)~~(3) Under that presession filing system, each member-elect of
22 the General Assembly and holdover member of the Senate who will be serving at
23 the next-following regular session of the General Assembly shall be permitted
24 to prefile bills and resolutions for the next regular session as soon as the
25 members-elect of the next General Assembly are certified to the Secretary of
26 State.

27
28 SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2104(d)(3), concerning findings and
29 recommendations of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee
30 on Education, is amended to read as follows:

31 (3) ~~By November 1 of the calendar year before the beginning of a~~
32 ~~fiscal session, if~~ If the House Committee on Education and the Senate
33 Committee on Education find that the recommendations in the most recent
34 adequacy evaluation report filed under this section should be amended, the
35 House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, jointly
36 or separately, or both, shall advise in writing the President Pro Tempore of

1 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of their findings
2 and amendments to the adequacy evaluation report;

3 (A) By November 1 of the calendar year before the
4 beginning of a fiscal session that is held in a year in which the
5 preferential primary election is held in May under § 7-7-203; and

6 (B) By March 1 of the calendar year before the beginning
7 of a fiscal session that is held in a year in which the preferential primary
8 election is held in March under § 7-7-203.

9
10 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 14-42-206(a)(1), concerning resolutions
11 requesting that county political party committees conduct party primaries, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1) The city or town council of any city or town with the mayor-
14 council form of government, ~~by resolution passed before January 1 of the year~~
15 ~~of the election,~~ may request the county party committees of recognized
16 political parties under the laws of the state to conduct party primaries for
17 municipal offices for the forthcoming year by resolution passed:

18 (A) Before January 1 of the year of the election, if the
19 election will occur in a year in which the preferential primary election is
20 held in May under § 7-7-203; and

21 (B) No less than sixty (60) days before the party filing
22 period begins under § 7-7-203, if the election will occur in a year in which
23 the preferential primary election is held in March under § 7-7-203.

24
25 SECTION 12. Arkansas Code § 19-4-304(b), concerning the submission of
26 the annual revenue forecast to the Legislative Council by the Director of the
27 Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b) The director shall submit the annual revenue forecast to the
29 Legislative Council:

30 (1) By December 1 of the year preceding a fiscal session that is
31 held in a year in which the preferential primary election will be held in May
32 under § 7-7-203; and

33 (2) By February 1 of a year preceding a fiscal session that is
34 held in a year in which the preferential primary election is held in March
35 under § 7-7-203; and

36 (3) No later than sixty (60) days before the start of a regular

1 session.

2

3 SECTION 13. Pursuant to the enactment of sections 1 through 12 of this
 4 Act, Act 545 of 2019 is repealed, Act 545 of 2019 shall not become effective,
 5 and this act is enacted in place of the provisions of Act 545 of 2019.

6 SECTION 1. ~~Arkansas Code § 6-14-102(a)(1)(A), concerning the dates of~~
 7 ~~an annual school election, is amended to read as follows:~~

8 ~~(a)(1)(A) The annual school election shall be held in each school~~
 9 ~~district of the state on the:~~

10 ~~(i) Date of the preferential primary election in~~
 11 ~~even-numbered years and the date that would be designated as the preferential~~
 12 ~~primary election in odd-numbered years if a general election were held in the~~
 13 ~~odd-numbered year; or:~~

14 ~~(ii)(i) In even-numbered years, on the date of the:~~

15 ~~(a) Preferential primary election; or~~

16 ~~(b) General election; and~~

17 ~~(ii) In odd-numbered years, on the:~~

18 ~~(a) First Tuesday following the first Monday~~
 19 ~~in November of each year; or~~

20 ~~(b) Third Tuesday in May.~~

21

22 SECTION 2. ~~Arkansas Code § 7-7-203(a)-(c), concerning the dates of the~~
 23 ~~general primary election and preferential primary election, are amended to~~
 24 ~~read as follows:~~

25 ~~(a) The general primary election shall be held on:~~

26 ~~(1) For years in which the office of Governor will appear on the~~
 27 ~~ballot at the general election, on the third Tuesday in June preceding the~~
 28 ~~general election; and~~

29 ~~(2) For years in which the office of President of the United~~
 30 ~~States will appear on the ballot at the general election, on the Tuesday four~~
 31 ~~(4) weeks following the preferential primary election.~~

32 ~~(b) The preferential primary election shall be held on:~~

33 ~~(1) For years in which the office of Governor will appear on the~~
 34 ~~ballot at the general election, on the Tuesday four (4) weeks before the~~
 35 ~~general primary election; and~~

36 ~~(2) For years in which the office of President of the United~~

1 ~~States will appear on the ballot at the general election, on the first~~
2 ~~Tuesday after the first Monday in March.~~

3 ~~(c)(1) The party filing period shall be a one week period beginning~~
4 ~~and ending on the following dates and times:~~

5 ~~(A) For years in which the office of Governor will appear~~
6 ~~on the ballot at the general election, beginning at 12:00 noon one (1) week~~
7 ~~prior to the first day in March and ending at 12:00 noon on the first day in~~
8 ~~March and beginning at 12:00 noon one (1) week prior to the first day in~~
9 ~~March; and~~

10 ~~(B) For years in which the office of President of the~~
11 ~~United State will appear on the ballot at the general election, beginning at~~
12 ~~12:00 noon on the first Monday in November preceding the general primary~~
13 ~~election and ending at 12:00 noon on the seventh day thereafter.~~

14 ~~(2) Party pledges, if any, and affidavits of eligibility shall~~
15 ~~be filed, any filing fees of a political party, if any, shall be paid, and~~
16 ~~party certificates shall be issued by the party during regular office hours~~
17 ~~during the party filing period.~~

18 ~~(3) A party certificate and the political practices pledge shall~~
19 ~~be filed with the county clerk or the Secretary of State, as the case may be,~~
20 ~~during regular office hours during the party filing period.~~

21 ~~(4) The name of a candidate who fails to file a party~~
22 ~~certificate and political practices pledge by the filing deadline with the~~
23 ~~Secretary of State or county clerk, as the case may be, shall not appear on~~
24 ~~the ballot.~~

25 ~~(5) Party pledges, if any, shall be filed, filing fees, if any,~~
26 ~~shall be paid, and party certificates and political practice pledges shall be~~
27 ~~filed for special primary elections on or before the deadline established by~~
28 ~~proclamation of the Governor or other entity authorized to call a special~~
29 ~~primary election.~~

30
31 ~~SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-7-304(a) and (b), concerning names to be~~
32 ~~included on ballots, are amended to read as follows:~~

33 ~~(a)(1) Not less than seventy five (75) days before each preferential~~
34 ~~primary election, the The Secretary of State shall certify to all county~~
35 ~~boards of election commissioners full lists of the names of all candidates~~
36 ~~who have filed party certificates with him or her to be placed on the ballots~~

1 in their respective counties at the preferential primary election not less
2 than:

3 ~~(A) Seventy five (75) days before a preferential primary~~
4 ~~election that is held in May under § 7-7-203; and~~

5 ~~(B) Ninety two (92) days before a preferential primary~~
6 ~~election that is held in March under § 7-7-203.~~

7 (2) ~~A name of a person shall not be certified and shall not be~~
8 ~~placed on the ballot if prior to the certification deadline a candidate:~~

9 ~~(A) Notifies the Secretary of State in writing, signed by~~
10 ~~the candidate and acknowledged before an officer authorized to take~~
11 ~~acknowledgements, of his or her desire to withdraw as a candidate for the~~
12 ~~office or position; or~~

13 ~~(B) Dies.~~

14 (b)(1) ~~Not less than seventy five (75) days before each preferential~~
15 ~~primary election, the The county clerk shall certify to the county board of~~
16 ~~election commissioners full lists of the names of all candidates who have~~
17 ~~filed party certificates with him or her to be placed on the ballot at the~~
18 ~~preferential primary election not less than:~~

19 ~~(A) Seventy five (75) days before a preferential primary~~
20 ~~election that is held in May under § 7-7-203; and~~

21 ~~(B) Ninety two (92) days before a preferential primary~~
22 ~~election that is held in March under § 7-7-203.~~

23 (2) ~~A name of a person shall not be certified and shall not be~~
24 ~~placed on the ballot if prior to the certification deadline a candidate:~~

25 ~~(A) Notifies the county clerk in writing, signed by the~~
26 ~~candidate and acknowledged before an officer authorized to take~~
27 ~~acknowledgements, of his or her desire to withdraw as a candidate for the~~
28 ~~office or position; or~~

29 ~~(B) Dies.~~

30
31 SECTION 4. ~~Arkansas Code § 7-7-305(b), concerning printing of ballots,~~
32 ~~is amended to read as follows:~~

33 (b)(1) ~~The order in which the names of the respective candidates are~~
34 ~~to appear on the ballots at all preferential and general primary elections~~
35 ~~shall be determined by lot at the public meeting of the county board of~~
36 ~~election commissioners held not later than seventy two:~~

1 ~~(A) Seventy two (72) days before the a preferential~~
 2 ~~primary election that is held in May under § 7-7-203; and~~

3 ~~(B) Eighty nine (89) days before a preferential primary~~
 4 ~~election that is held in March under § 7-7-203.~~

5 ~~(2) The county board of election commissioners shall give at~~
 6 ~~least ten (10) days' written notice of the time and place of the meeting to~~
 7 ~~the chairs of the county committees if the chairs are not members of the~~
 8 ~~county board of election commissioners, and at least three (3) days before~~
 9 ~~the meeting, shall publish notice of the time and place of holding the~~
 10 ~~meeting in some newspaper of general circulation in the county.~~

11
 12 SECTION 5. ~~Arkansas Code § 10-2-101(b)(1), concerning the timing of~~
 13 ~~the fiscal session of the General Assembly, is amended to read as follows:~~

14 ~~(b)(1) The General Assembly shall meet in a fiscal session at 12:00~~
 15 ~~noon on the second Monday in February of each even-numbered year to consider~~
 16 ~~appropriation bills in each even-numbered year at 12:00 noon on the:~~

17 ~~(A) Second Monday in February in years in which the~~
 18 ~~preferential primary election is held in May under § 7-7-203; and~~

19 ~~(B) Second Wednesday in April in years in which the~~
 20 ~~preferential primary election is held in March under § 7-7-203.~~

21
 22 SECTION 6. ~~Arkansas Code § 10-2-112(a), concerning the prefiling of~~
 23 ~~bills and resolutions, is amended to read as follows:~~

24 ~~(a)(1) The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives and the~~
 25 ~~Secretary of the Senate, under the direction and supervision of the Speaker~~
 26 ~~of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate,~~
 27 ~~shall establish a system for the prefiling of bills and resolutions beginning~~
 28 ~~on:~~

29 ~~(A) November 15 of each year preceding a regular session~~
 30 ~~of the General Assembly; and~~

31 ~~(B)(i) The second Monday of January of each year of a~~
 32 ~~fiscal session of the General Assembly which is held in a year in which the~~
 33 ~~preferential primary election is held in May under § 7-7-203; and~~

34 ~~(C) The second Monday of March of each year of a fiscal~~
 35 ~~session of the General Assembly which is held in a year in which the~~
 36 ~~preferential primary election is held in March under § 7-7-203.~~

1 ~~(ii)(2)~~—A nonappropriation bill may not be prefiled
 2 prior to a fiscal session due to the requirement in Arkansas Constitution,
 3 Amendment 86, that a concurrent resolution be approved by a vote of two-
 4 thirds ~~(2/3)~~ of the members elected to each house before either body may
 5 consider a nonappropriation bill.

6 ~~(2)(3)~~—Under that pre-session filing system, each member elect of
 7 the General Assembly and holdover member of the Senate who will be serving at
 8 the next following regular session of the General Assembly shall be permitted
 9 to prefile bills and resolutions for the next regular session as soon as the
 10 members elect of the next General Assembly are certified to the Secretary of
 11 State.

12
 13 SECTION 7.—Arkansas Code § 10-3-2104(d)(3), concerning findings and
 14 recommendations of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee
 15 on Education, is amended to read as follows:

16 ~~(3)~~—By November 1 of the calendar year before the beginning of a
 17 fiscal session, if If the House Committee on Education and the Senate
 18 Committee on Education find that the recommendations in the most recent
 19 adequacy evaluation report filed under this section should be amended, the
 20 House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, jointly
 21 or separately, or both, shall advise in writing the President Pro Tempore of
 22 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of their findings
 23 and amendments to the adequacy evaluation report:

24 ~~(A)~~—By November 1 of the calendar year before the
 25 beginning of a fiscal session that is held in a year in which the
 26 preferential primary election is held in May under § 7-7-203; and

27 ~~(B)~~—By March 1 of the calendar year before the beginning
 28 of a fiscal session that is held in a year in which the preferential primary
 29 election is held in March under § 7-7-203.

30
 31 SECTION 8.—Arkansas Code § 14-42-206(a)(1), concerning resolutions
 32 requesting that county political party committees conduct party primaries, is
 33 amended to read as follows:

34 ~~(a)(1)~~—The city or town council of any city or town with the mayor-
 35 council form of government, by resolution passed before January 1 of the year
 36 of the election, may request the county party committees of recognized

1 ~~political parties under the laws of the state to conduct party primaries for~~
 2 ~~municipal offices for the forthcoming year by resolution passed:~~

3 ~~(A) Before January 1 of the year of the election, if the~~
 4 ~~election will occur in a year in which the preferential primary election is~~
 5 ~~held in May under § 7-7-203; and~~

6 ~~(B) No less than sixty (60) days before the party filing~~
 7 ~~period begins under § 7-7-203, if the election will occur in a year in which~~
 8 ~~the preferential primary election is held in March under § 7-7-203.~~

9
 10 SECTION 9. ~~Arkansas Code § 19-4-304(b), concerning the submission of~~
 11 ~~the annual revenue forecast to the Legislative Council by the Director of the~~
 12 ~~Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:~~

13 ~~(b) The director shall submit the annual revenue forecast to the~~
 14 ~~Legislative Council:~~

15 ~~(1) By December 1 of the year preceding a fiscal session that is~~
 16 ~~held in a year in which the preferential primary election will be held in May~~
 17 ~~under § 7-7-203; and~~

18 ~~(2) By February 1 of a year preceding a fiscal session that is~~
 19 ~~held in a year in which the preferential primary election is held in March~~
 20 ~~under § 7-7-203; and~~

21 ~~(3) No later than sixty (60) days before the start of a regular~~
 22 ~~session.~~

23
 24 SECTION 14. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
 25 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that certain pre-election deadlines
 26 must be met well in advance of the preferential primary election or general
 27 election in the case of judicial elections; that judicial candidates cannot
 28 announce their candidacy sooner than one (1) year before the judicial
 29 election; and that this act is immediately necessary in order to protect the
 30 integrity of our election process by ensuring that election deadlines for the
 31 upcoming March preferential primary election and judicial election are
 32 clearly stated. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act
 33 being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health,
 34 and safety shall become effective on:

35 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

36 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,

1 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
2 bill; or

3 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
4 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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