

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4  
5 By: Senator J. English  
6

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 201

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING LOCAL OPTION  
9 ELECTIONS IN DEFUNCT TOWNSHIPS THAT RESULTED FROM  
10 INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1942; TO PROVIDE THAT AN AREA  
11 WITHIN A DEFUNCT TOWNSHIP THAT IS PARTIALLY OR  
12 TOTALLY ANNEXED INTO A WET CITY OR TOWN OBTAINS ALL  
13 RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF THE ANNEXING CITY OR TOWN  
14 RELATED TO THE MANUFACTURE OR SALE OF ALCOHOLIC  
15 BEVERAGES; TO PROVIDE THAT AN ANNEXED AREA WITHIN A  
16 DEFUNCT TOWNSHIP HAS ALL TIES TO THE DEFUNCT TOWNSHIP  
17 RELATED TO THE MANUFACTURE OR SALE OF ALCOHOLIC  
18 BEVERAGES SEVERED UPON ANNEXATION; AND FOR OTHER  
19 PURPOSES.  
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21

## Subtitle

22 TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING LOCAL OPTION  
23 ELECTIONS IN DEFUNCT TOWNSHIPS THAT  
24 RESULTED FROM INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1942.  
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28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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30 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 3-8-601, concerning definitions applicable  
31 to the law on local option elections, is amended to add additional  
32 subdivisions to read as follows:

33 (10) "Alcoholic beverages" means all beverages containing more  
34 than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by weight; and

35 (11) "Defunct township" means a township that:

36 (A) Has been partially or totally annexed by one (1) or



1 more municipalities; and

2 (B) No longer has governmental powers.

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4 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 3, Chapter 8, Subchapter 6, is amended  
5 to add an additional section to read as follows:

6 3-8-603. Defunct township.

7 (a) An area within the boundaries of a defunct township that has been  
8 annexed into a wet city or wet incorporated town under Title 14, Chapter 40,  
9 shall have all the rights and privileges of the inhabitants of the annexing  
10 city or annexing incorporated town related to the manufacture or sale of  
11 alcoholic beverages.

12 (b) An annexed area within a defunct township described under  
13 subsection (a) of this section shall have all ties to the defunct township  
14 related to local option status for the manufacture or sale of alcoholic  
15 beverages severed upon annexation.

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17 SECTION 3. DO NOT CODIFY. RETROACTIVITY. This act applies  
18 retroactively to all defunct townships annexed into a city or incorporated  
19 town before the effective date of this act.