

"AN ACT TO CREATE A MUNICIPAL COURT IN THE CITY OF PRAIRIE GROVE, WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS; TO PRESCRIBE THE QUALIFICATIONS AND MANNER OF SELECTION OF THE JUDGE OF SAID COURT; TO AUTHORIZE THE JUDGE OF SAID COURT TO APPOINT A COURT CLERK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Effective, July 1, 1976, there is hereby created a municipal court in the city of Prairie Grove, Washington County, Arkansas. The court shall be styled the "Prairie Grove Municipal Court", and shall have all power, authority and jurisdiction prescribed by law for other municipal courts in this State.

SECTION 2. The judge of the municipal court created herein shall be at least twenty-five (25) years of age, of good moral character, an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Arkansas, and a qualified elector of Washington County. At the general election in 1980 and each four (4) years thereafter, the qualified electors of Prairie Grove shall elect a judge of the Prairie Grove Municipal Court for a term of four (4) years. Any vacancy in the office of Prairie Grove Municipal Judge shall be filled by the governing body of the City of Prairie Grove.

SECTION 3. The salary of the judge and the clerk of the municipal court of Prairie Grove shall be paid in equal monthly installments and such salaries and other necessary expenses of the court shall be paid one-half by the city of Prairie Grove and one-half by Washington County.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that because of the case *Ricarte v. State*, CR 86-31, a question has arisen over the validity of Act 1171 of the Extended Session of 1976; that this Act is a reenactment of the former law; and that the immediate passage of this Act is necessary to clarify the state of the law on this issue. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: April 14, 1987

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