

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: S3/31/03

# A Bill

Act 1295 of 2003  
SENATE BILL 701

5 By: Senator Gullett  
6 By: Representative Edwards  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ANNUAL  
11 SCHOOL ELECTIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ABSENTEE VOTING  
15 FOR ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTIONS.  
16  
17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
19

20 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-14-102(c) is amended to read as follows:*

21 *(c)(1) In any election year, if no more than one (1) candidate for*  
22 *school district director presents a petition or notice in writing to the*  
23 *county board of election commissioners as required by § 6-14-111, and if*  
24 *there are no other ballot issues to be submitted to district electors for*  
25 *consideration, the board of directors of any school district, by resolution*  
26 *duly adopted, may request the county board of election commissioners to*  
27 *reduce the number of polling places, or to open no polling places on election*  
28 *day so that the election can be conducted by absentee ballot and early voting*  
29 *only.*

30 *(2) The county board of election commissioners ~~shall~~ may provide*  
31 *at least one (1) polling place that no polling places be open on election day*  
32 *so that the election can be conducted by absentee ballot and early voting*  
33 *only, if no more than one (1) candidate for school district director presents*  
34 *a petition or notice in writing to the county board of election commissioners*  
35 *as required by § 6-14-111, and if there are no other ballot issues to be*  
36 *submitted to district electors for consideration, if requested by resolution*



1 adopted by the board of directors of any school district.

2 (3) In a county that uses voting machines or electronic voting,  
3 the county board of election commissioners may choose to use paper ballots  
4 for the election.

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6 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-5-101(a) is amended to read as follows:

7 (a)(1) The county board of election commissioners is empowered to  
8 alter the boundaries of existing election precincts and to establish new ones  
9 when, in its judgment, it may be necessary.

10 (2)(A) The county board shall fix a polling site for each  
11 election precinct.

12 (B) The county board may combine polling sites for two (2)  
13 or more precincts when, in its judgment, it may be necessary.

14 (C) The county board may allow school elections to be  
15 conducted by early voting and absentee voting only and open no polling sites  
16 on a school election day in any election year if no more than one (1)  
17 candidate for school district director presents a petition or notice in  
18 writing to the county board of election commissioners as required by § 6-14-  
19 111, and if there are no other ballot issues to be submitted to district  
20 electors for consideration, if requested by resolution adopted by the board  
21 of directors of any school district.

22 (3) In changing the boundaries of existing precincts or in  
23 creating new ones, the county board shall arrange them so that all qualified  
24 voters residing therein may vote on the same day.

25 (4)(A) The county board shall not have the power to change the  
26 boundaries of existing precincts, to create any new precinct, or to change  
27 the polling site in any precinct within thirty (30) days of any election, but  
28 all elections shall be held at the sites and within the boundaries as they  
29 existed thirty (30) days before the date of the election.

30 (B) In the event of an emergency, a county board may  
31 change a precinct boundary or a polling site.

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33 /s/ Gullett  
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36 APPROVED: 4/14/2003

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