

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.
Act 834 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2624

4
5 By: Representative Sumpter
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING VOTING
10 PROCEDURES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING
14 VOTING PROCEDURES.
15
16

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

19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-5-309 is amended to read as follows:
20 7-5-309. Voting procedure.

21 (a)(1) At general, primary, special, and school elections in counties
22 which use paper ballots, the county board of election commissioners shall
23 provide in each polling site at least one (1) voting booth for each fifty
24 (50) registered electors voting in the last-preceding comparable election.

25 (2) Each voting booth shall be situated so as to permit voters
26 to prepare their ballots screened from observation and shall be furnished
27 with any supplies and conveniences as will enable the voter to prepare his or
28 her ballot.

29 (3) The voting booths shall be situated in the polling site in
30 plain view of the election officials.

31 (4) No person other than the election officials and those
32 admitted for the purpose of voting shall be permitted within the immediate
33 voting area, which shall be considered as within six feet (6') of the voting
34 booths, except by authority of the election officials and then only when
35 necessary to keep order and enforce the law.



1 (b)(1)(A) Upon receiving his or her ballot, the voter shall proceed to
 2 mark it by placing an appropriate mark.

3 (B) No voter shall be allowed more than five (5) minutes
 4 to mark his or her ballot.

5 (2) The voter shall then personally deposit the ballot in the
 6 ballot box provided.

7 (c)(1) The voter shall not be required to sign, initial, or in any way
 8 identify himself or herself with the ballot, the ballot stub, or the list of
 9 voters other than in the manner set forth in this section.

10 (2) However, an election official may inspect the back of the
 11 ballot before the voter deposits it to see if it has been initialed by an
 12 election official.

13 (d) After having voted or having declined to do so, the voter shall
 14 immediately depart from the polling site.

15 (e)(1) If a paper ballot is left at a voting booth or anywhere else in
 16 the polling site without being inserted into the ballot box by the voter
 17 prior to departing the polling site, an election officer shall:

18 (A) Write "Abandoned" on the face of the paper ballot;

19 (B) Place the paper ballot in an envelope marked
 20 "Abandoned Ballot";

21 (C) Note in writing on the outside of the envelope all
 22 circumstances surrounding the abandoned ballot; and

23 (D) Preserve the abandoned ballot separately.

24 (2) The county board of election commissioners shall not count
 25 the ballot.

26 (f) If a paper ballot that is fed by a voter into an electronic vote
 27 tabulating device at the polling site is rejected by the device but is still
 28 in the receiving part of the counter and the voter has not reported to an
 29 election officer his or her desire to cancel or replace the ballot prior to
 30 departing the polling site, two (2) election officers shall take action to
 31 override warnings on the device and complete the process of casting the
 32 ballot.

33 (2) The election officers shall document:

34 (A) The time;

35 (B) The name of the voter;

36 (C) The names of the election officers completing the

1 process of casting the ballot; and

2 (D) All other circumstances surrounding the abandoned

3 ballot.

4

5

APPROVED: 4/2/2007

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36