

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1492

5 By: Representatives Lundstrum, D. Garner, Godfrey, Boyd, Cavanaugh, Coleman, Crawford, M. Gray,
6 Ladyman, Petty, Richmond, McCollum, G. Hodges

7 By: Senators J. Cooper, Hester
8
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For An Act To Be Entitled

11 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ELECTION PAGES; TO
12 ALLOW CERTAIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO PERFORM THE
13 DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF ELECTION OFFICIALS; AND FOR
14 OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

17 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ELECTION
18 PAGES; AND TO ALLOW CERTAIN HIGH SCHOOL
19 STUDENTS TO PERFORM THE DUTIES AND
20 FUNCTIONS OF ELECTION OFFICIALS.
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-4-116(c) and (d), concerning duties and
27 responsibilities of election pages, are amended to read as follows:

28 (c)(1) ~~Each~~ In this volunteer position, each student selected as an
29 election page shall:

30 (A) Be granted an additional excused absence from school
31 while working as an election page;

32 (B) Serve under the direct supervision of the election
33 officials at his or her assigned polling place; and

34 (C) Observe strict impartiality at all times.

35 (2) ~~An election page may observe the electoral process and seek~~
36 ~~information from the election officers but shall not handle or touch ballots,~~



1 ~~voting machines, or any other official election materials or enter any voting~~
 2 ~~booth.~~ If an election page has attended training provided by the county
 3 board of election commissioners, the election page may assist election
 4 officials with checking in voters, assisting voters with instructions
 5 regarding the operation of voting machines, guarding the ballot box, and
 6 other related duties.

7 (3) An election page shall be in a volunteer position and shall
 8 not receive any compensation for performing his or her duties.

9 (4) Before beginning any duties, an election page shall take,
 10 before an election official, the following oath:

11 “I, _____, do swear that I will perform the duties of an election page of
 12 this election according to law and to the best of my abilities, and that I
 13 will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit, and abuse, and that I will
 14 not disclose how any voter shall have voted, unless required to do so as a
 15 witness in a judicial proceeding or a proceeding to contest an election.”

16 (d)~~(1)~~ Each student selected to be an election official shall:

17 ~~(A)(1)~~ Take the oath of the election officials in § 7-4-
 18 110;

19 ~~(B)(2)~~ Serve under the supervision of the appropriate
 20 county board of election commissioners;

21 ~~(C)(3)~~ Observe strict impartiality at all times; and

22 ~~(D)(4)~~ Be granted an additional excused absence from
 23 school while working as an election official.

24 ~~(2) A high school student selected to be an election official~~
 25 ~~may be compensated according to § 7-4-112 if the county board of election~~
 26 ~~commissioners determines that the high school students selected to be~~
 27 ~~election officials should be compensated.~~

30 **APPROVED: 3/6/19**